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ABSTRACT

Designed to provide high interest reading materials for late-adolescent- and adult-elementary-level readers, this kit contains reading exercises with a difficulty of fourth-grade-and-below readability. The kit includes thirty-five reading exercises developed from unedited stories dictated by students (the Learning Experience Approach). Following each exercise are fifteen true-false questions at the literal, interpretive, and applied levels. Exercises need not be used in sequence. Instructions and suggestions for use are found in the companion teacher's manual (CE 024 001), which is available separately. Kits for other reading levels are also available (see note). (YLB)

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high interest reading kit

VOLUME 1

ED182480

CE024002

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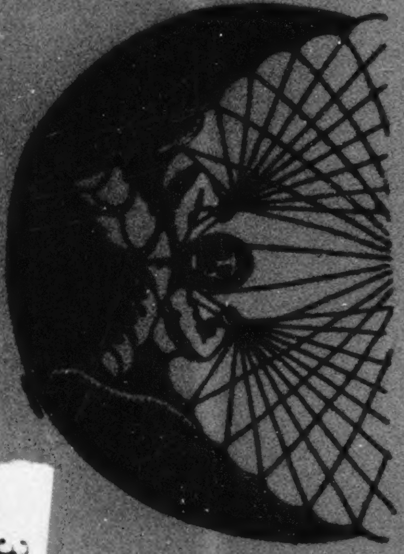

KIT 1

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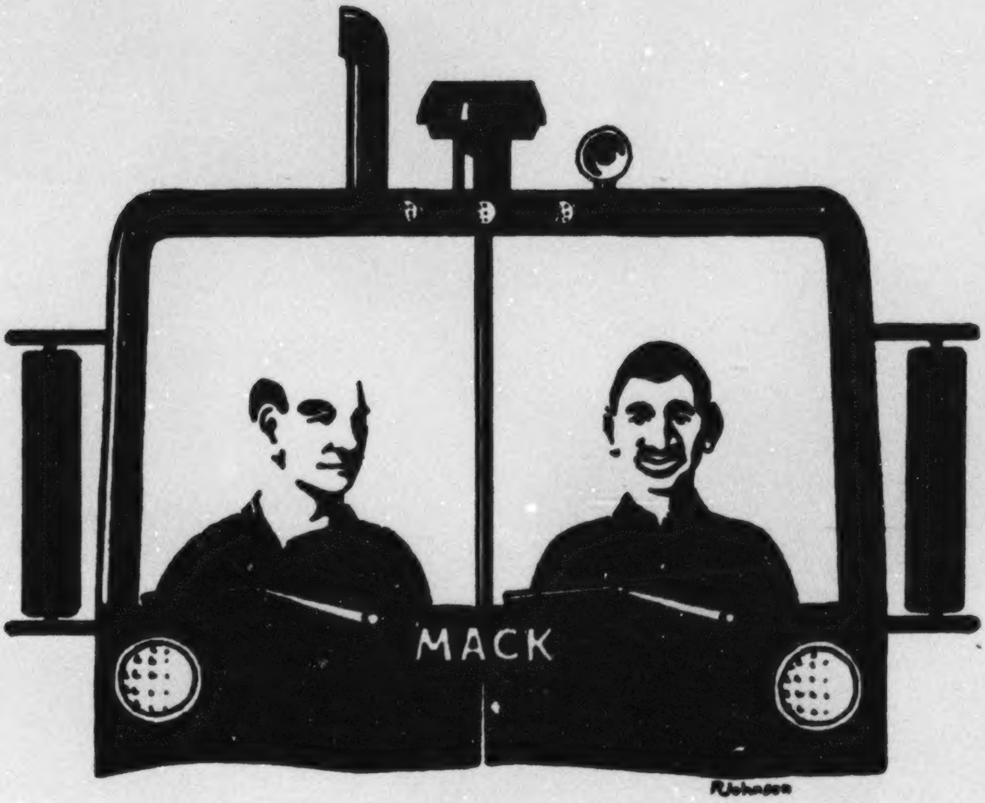


GETTING A DRIVER'S LICENSE

by William Henry Gray

When I used to work on the farm, one year passed and I decided I'd go down and get my drivers license. My foreman told me he would go with me. When I went in to get my drivers license I went into the place and told the driver permit man that I couldn't read but I wanted my drivers license. He says, "Son, say you have to know something to get it, only if to fill out the papers." Well, I had already told him I couldn't read, so he said, "Well, I'll ask you the questions and you answer them." I said, "Alright." The man asked me some questions and I didn't know them all. He gave me such a hard time, then I left when he says, "Well, William, you got to learn more about it."

Then on Saturday I used to ride around with the man who used to read signs to me so I would get to know them. Then I worked on and on til I decided I'd go back again. I went in and sat down and he started asking me questions and I started to answer them. Everyone he'd ask me I'd hit it right on the nail. So when he got to the end of the questions he asked me one more that he had already asked me to cross me up. So I caught that and then he said what you got to drive, and I said give me fifteen minutes and I'll go over to the road and get me a truck.

I went over to the road and brought back the biggest truck that I could find. I pulled up and stopped and he said, "Can you drive this?" and I said, "Yea." He said, "Okay, then we will go around the block and come up the hill." Okay, we started out and went on around the block. Just after I got to the hill, I pushed the two speed button down, so I shift from high gear to third, from third back to second, and from second back to low. By that time I had gotten to the top of the hill and made a right hand turn and stopped. Then he got out and he stood at the door and he asked me where did I learn to drive at. I said, "You see that orchard right up there, well that's where I learned to drive at." I said, "See that road that's going all the way to the top of that mountain." He didn't say anything, he just wrote something on a piece of paper and tore it out and give it to me, and he told me to give him two dollars, and I did. Then he walked away and shook his head and I haven't been back since.

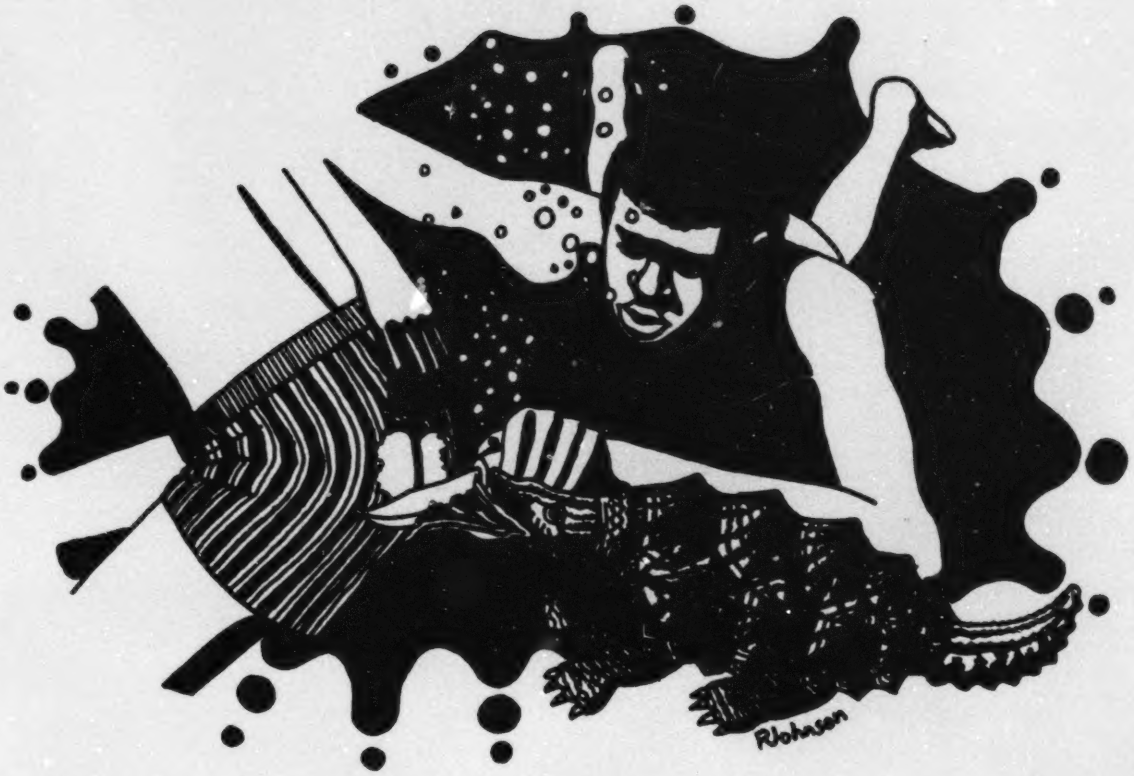
THREE LEVEL GUIDE: GETTING A DRIVERS LICENSE

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
1. I told the permit man I could not read but I wanted my drivers license.
2. The permit man said, "You have to know something to get it."
3. I passed the first time I took the test.
4. I got the biggest truck I could find to take the test in.
5. I did not have to pay anything for taking the test.

II What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
6. He thought the test would be easy to pass the first time.
7. He thought the driver permit man was out to cross him up.
8. The permit man thought the driver might not be able to handle the truck going up the hill.
9. The author shifted from low to high to get more pulling power up the hill.
10. I "hit it right on the nail" means I got all the questions right.

III How can we use the meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
11. Even if you can't read it is easy to get a drivers license.
12. Practice makes perfect when learning to drive.
13. It pays to be polite to your driving permit man.
14. It is best to learn how to drive on busy paved streets.
15. If at first you don't succeed, try and try again.



SNAPPING TURTLES

by Fuzzy Spears

We were teachers at Camp Faith. There was me, my brother, and about two other teachers. It was like a day care center for teenagers in the summer time. Me and my brother were lifeguards. We were teaching the kids how to swim. He would watch the blue side. I would watch the orange side. The blue side was for the D swimmers. The orange side was for the beginners.

We would play around and push each other off the dock. And we would go swimming. My brother is hard-headed. He likes to go under the dock. So one day we were out there playing around in the water. There was this turtle out there in the water. And my brother was out there playing under the dock. He didn't seem to come up at the right time. He was supposed to come right back up. You could see where he was fighting the water trying to come back up. He was hollering or shall we say, bubbling. We noticed after we got in the water that the turtle had him by the seat of the pants. It was dragging him down toward the bottom. But then he became sort of tired. He just sat down on the bottom while the turtle was trying to dig in the mud. As the turtle was digging in the mud, brother just sat down there and crossed his arms. He didn't care any more what was going on. So we went down there and cut my brother's pants off where the turtle was hanging on. We brought my brother back up to the top. My brother said he would always feel that turtle's mouth implanted on the seat of his pants.

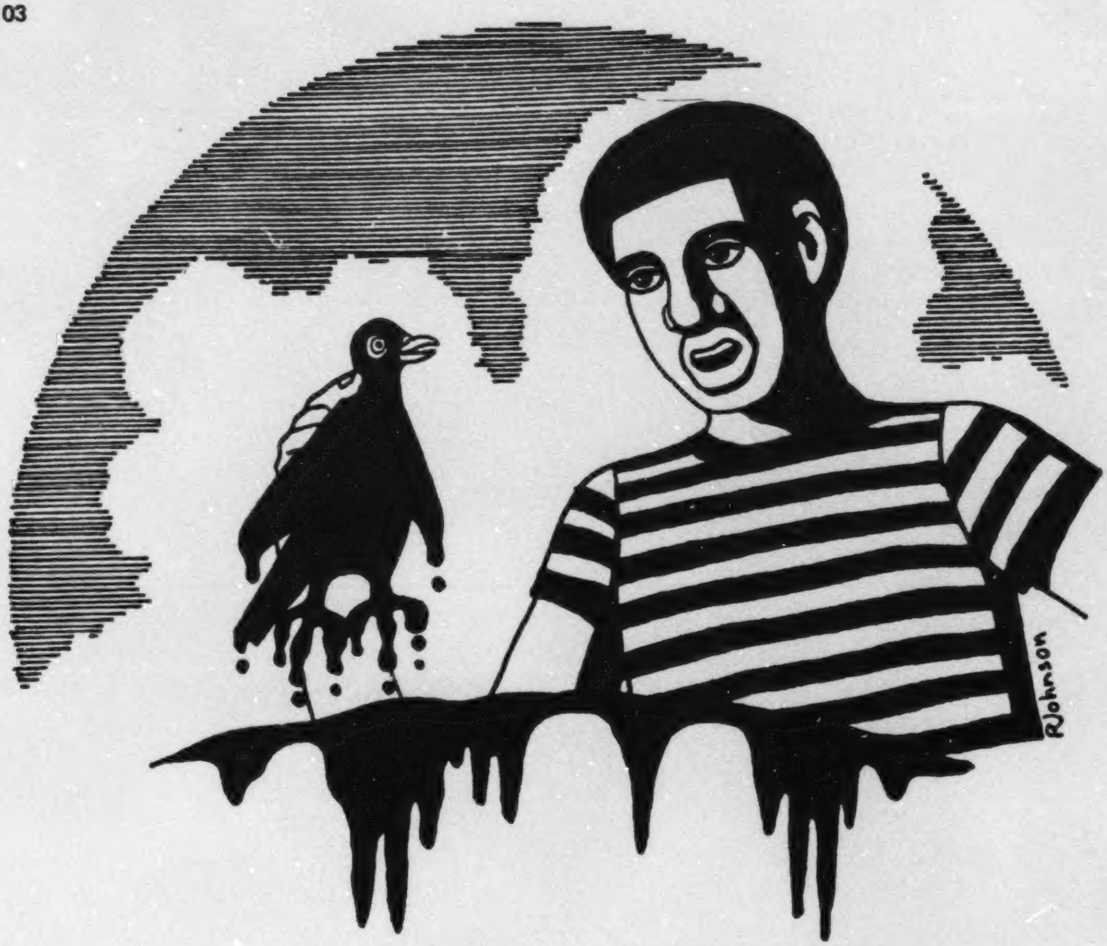
THREE LEVEL GUIDE: SNAPPING TURTLES

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
1. "We were teachers at Camp Fireplace."
2. "We would play around and push each other off the dock."
3. "He was hollering or shall we say, bubbling."
4. "The turtle was dragging him toward the bottom."
5. "He didn't care anymore what was going on."

II What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
6. The brother was fighting two against one, the turtle and the water.
7. The turtle can move much more freely in water than he can on land.
8. The brother was lucky he lost his pants and not his life.
9. You could say a lifeguard ended up saving a lifeguard, in this story.
10. We could hear the brother's screams from all the way under the water.

III How can we use the meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
11. The turtle's bite would always be a reminder to the brother not to be so hard-headed.
12. A good swimmer never has to worry about anything when around water.
13. Accidents are often made to happen by carelessness, they just don't happen.
14. It is true that you should never swim alone.
15. A fun sport can become a dangerous sport when not played by the rules.



TAR AND FEATHERS

by Freeman Lewis

One day when I was at home doing nothing, I just decided to go out and find something to do. I went up on main street and then I saw some pigeons flying around. That gave me an idea. So, that night I went up on the hotel where a lot of pigeons stay. They stayed in a big, old house. I had my flashlight with me then. I went in the big house where they were. I shined the light on them and they did not fly at all. I got three of them and put them in a box, and left them up there until the next day.

The next day I went up there and that time I only wanted to have two of the pigeons. I let one of them go. I made a little house for them. I bought some food for them. The next day came and one of the pigeons was gone. The other black one was still there. And that one I let go. I went home for about two days and went back up there. Then I was looking for him. I couldn't find him at the time.

Then I was beginning to leave and I saw ten tar cans were up there. I started dropping them off the side. I came to one can with a lot of tar in it, and there I found my black pigeon. He was covered with tar. I tried to get most of it off of him. I pulled most of his feathers off of him with the tar. He couldn't walk at all. He was an awful mess. He needed help bad, so I took him in my arms and petted him. I took him home in a paper bag, so that nobody could see him. I took him home and tried to get the tar off him, but I was still pulling the feathers off of him. Have you ever seen a hen before you get ready to cook it? Well, that's what he looked like. I felt sorry for him. I named my pigeon "Silly" because every time I look at him he makes me laugh.

All my life I have liked pigeons. I like playing with pigeons.

I should have named this story, "The Pigeon's Life I Saved", because if Silly had stayed up there he would have died.

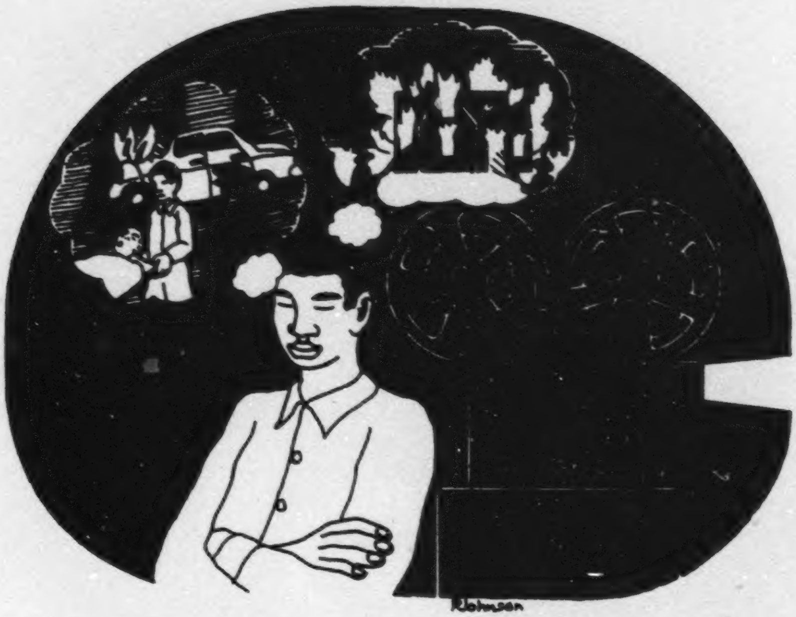
THREE LEVEL GUIDE: TAR AND FEATHERS

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  1. "One day I had nothing to do so I decided to go out and catch pigeons."
  2. "I got three of them and put them in a box."
  3. "I never did find that missing pigeon."
  4. "I threw the can over the side and out flew my missing pigeon."
  5. "I took him home in a paper bag so nobody could see him"

II What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  6. Pigeons are easier to catch in the dark.
  7. Falling into a tar can is bad news for a bird.
  8. Pigeons will be your friend if you feed them.
  9. Silly looked like a featherless hen getting ready to be cooked.
  10. The author easily gave up trying to save the pigeon.

III How can we use the meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  11. Being tarred and feathered is kind of a sticky situation.
  12. Birds are probably most afraid of tar and oil.
  13. It would be better for birds and animals to be able to run free.
  14. It is man's job to help animals in the world who are in trouble.
  15. Man makes the world a much safer place for animals to live.



UNJUSTLY ACCUSED

by William Henry Gray

A few years ago, I used to work at the movie. I was always looking for excitement.

Some Saturday night, somebody would wreck somewhere and I would go to it. So this would go on and on. One night, I went to a wreck and I saw a policeman that had been investigating all the wrecks I had been to. So the policeman asked me how did I know that these things happened that late at night? I said, "Somebody told me." After that I didn't go to any more.

One Friday night the fire alarm blew, and I ran out on the street. Somebody said the fire was in Greensville. There was a barn on fire, but I stopped long enough to just find out what was on fire. Just as I got back in my car one of the firemen drove up and spotted me. I went back to the movie and did my work. Then we closed the movie. I went home. I did not ride around that night. I said to myself, I knew I was in the wrong. The next morning I went to Lovingston, picked up the mail at the post office, and walked out the door to my car. Soon as I got near the car, the Sheriff pulled up. He said, "Gray, haven't we told you about following the fire truck."

I said, "Yes."

He said, "If I catch you doing this again, I'm going to give you a ticket as long as the car." So I did not follow the fire trucks no more after that.

One Monday morning I was coming to work. The fire alarm went off about 5:30 that morning. The fire truck pulled out and I stopped. Curiosity got into me and I passed the truck and came in to work. When I got back home that night about ten or eleven, the Sheriff had run out there looking for me. He told my mother to tell me to come to the courthouse. This time though I was in the right. I went to the courthouse to the Sheriff department. The Sheriff said, "I thought I had told you about following the fire truck."

I said, "I did not follow the fire truck. I just passed it on my way to work, because it wasn't going too fast up the mountain."

He said, "What time do you go to work?"

I said, "7:00 AM."

He said, "What time do you leave home?"

I said, "5:30."

So he said, "O.K. Gray, I'm sorry to call you up here for following the truck on your way to work."

I said, "That's ok," and I went on home.

THREE LEVEL GUIDE: UNJUSTLY ACCUSED

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

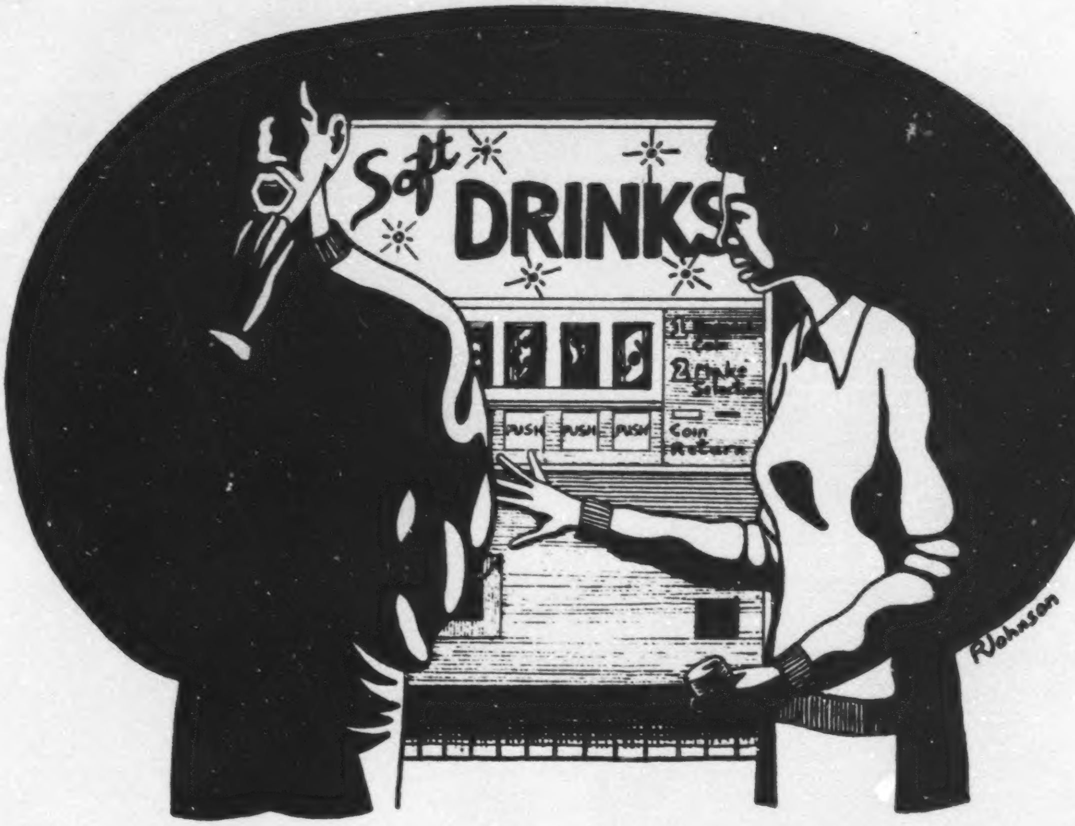
1. "I was never in need of excitement."
2. "If I catch you doing this again, I'm going to run you into jail."
3. "A few years ago, I used to work at a restaurant."
4. The author had to be at work at 9:00.
5. The Sheriff told him to quit following the trucks.

II What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

6. "Curiosity" means having a desire to investigate or learn.
7. The author was a victim of being in the wrong place at the wrong time.
8. The author was "in the right" means he had the right of way when he passed the fire truck.
9. The author was under suspicion because he had followed fire trucks before.
10. The police didn't want the author to follow the truck for his own safety.

III How can we use the meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

11. It's good to be curious in the passing things of the world, but it's better not to meddle in them.
12. Suspicion is easy to get away from.
13. Curiosity more often than not kills the cat.
14. News travels fast in a small town.
15. Often staying at home is the wisest decision one can choose.



FLEETING ROMANCE

by William Henry Gray

Sunday evening around 6:00 the telephone rang. A young lady called me and asked whether I was going anywhere. I said, "I didn't think so." She said, "How about picking me up at 7:30?" I said, "All right." Then I hung the phone up. I got to thinking to myself that I done made a big mistake. If I go and pick her up, I will miss the Six Million Dollar Man. But I went on and picked her up. I told her, "You know, it's too cold to go anywhere tonight." She said, "I ain't going anywhere, just down to the store to get a soda." So she got the soda and I said to myself, "I won't be out long."

Then she started telling me about her husband and when he left her. So I said to myself, "You mean I got to sit here and listen to all this talk about her husband. She talked from the time we left until 10:00, and I missed the Six Million Dollar Man.

Monday night I got home about a quarter to ten. When I was on my way home, I was thinking, "I wonder what that lady wants." I dropped my riders off and on my way back I had two thoughts in mind. One was to stop and one was to keep going. So I stopped by her house and knocked on her door and her son answered her door. I went in and she said, "Have a seat."

I said, "I don't have much time to stay."

She asked me did I want some peaches and ice cream?

I said, "No, I don't care for no peaches and ice cream this late at night."

She said, "I wasn't expecting to see you tonight."

I said, "I came by for one reason; to ask you why you wanted me to take you out Sunday night."

She said, "I wanted to be with you but I didn't know how to tell you."

I said, "I thought that, but I didn't know for sure." So I said, "I better be going." And then I left.

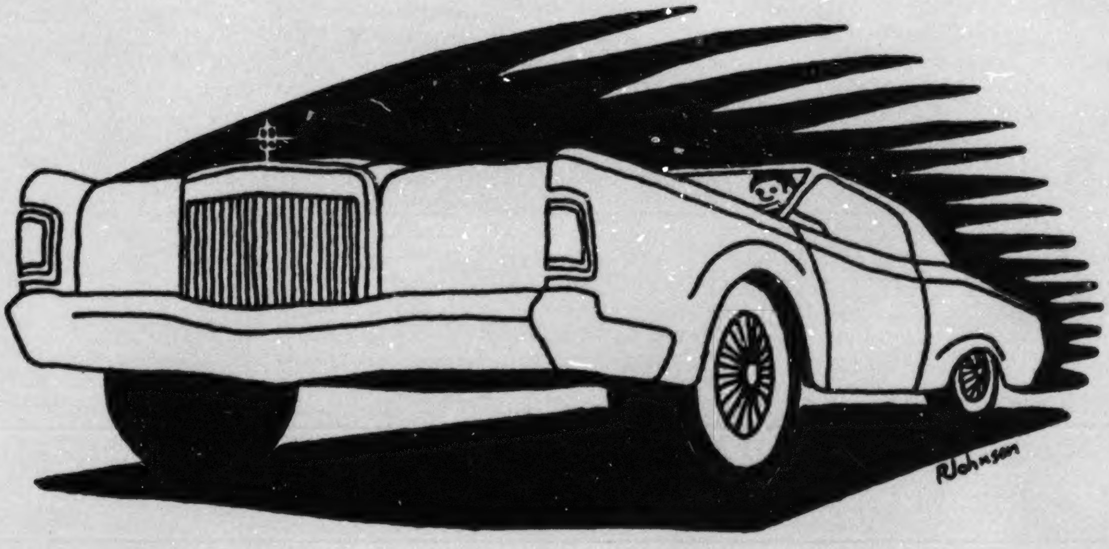
THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: FLEETING ROMANCE

Directions: **Number from 1-15 on your paper.**
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
1. "I got to thinking to myself, what a lucky break."
2. "She talked from the time we left until 10:00, and I missed the Six Million Dollar Man."
3. "I came by for one reason, to ask you out for next Sunday night."
4. "I don't have much time to stay."
5. "I didn't want to be with you but I didn't know how to tell you."

II What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
6. The author felt he better get out while the getting was good.
7. The peaches and ice cream were being used as bait to catch the author.
8. The author enjoyed hearing about the lady's husband and why he left her.
9. There isn't enough time for romance when the Six Million Dollar Man is on.
10. The author was dead sure why the lady kept calling him.

III How can we use the meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
11. Nothing can spoil a romance as fast as an impatient woman.
12. Sometimes it is better not to get involved with other people's business.
13. The man in our society is always the asker and not the one to be asked.
14. Once you start thinking about romance there's no way to get it off your mind.
15. It's always best to get the facts straight before jumping to conclusions.



THE SUPERFLY CAR

by Reggie Jackson

In 1975, I was hired by the NYC and I made about $145 every two weeks. This man that lived about two miles from my grandfather had a 1970 Lincoln Continental that he wanted to sell for $500. So I kind of saved up and saved up and I ended up getting it. I ended up saving about $500 out of my pay for the car. Then I started fixing it up.

What was so good about it was that it was a pretty white car, white on the outside with four white walls and blue vinyl seats on the inside. And it's got automatic seats on it that go up, you press the button and it will rise back. It even had a tape deck with two big speakers. If you turn the music up, it blasts, man.

I went down town in it and this lady was staring at me. When I used to drive that car, I'd usually be dressed up and people would stare at me. One day I was dressed up in a blue suit, with a nice blue jacket and high top shoes, and a lady cop came up to me. I thought I had a ticket at first, the way she came up to me. But she said, "I like your car, it's really cool." and I said, "Umhuh."

Then I went out of there and bought a couple of cloths and put them in the car. I wash the car twice a week. I keep that car clean. And it runs pretty good. Only one thing was wrong with it when I got it - the radio wouldn't work. But I had a tape deck, so it really didn't bother me.

I got everything fixed up in it pretty good. It runs beautiful. I've got four big gangster white walls, and one on the spare tire. I was going to try to get me a small TV to put in it, a battery TV. I'd also like to put a telephone in it. Then I would be stylin. It's a beautiful car, though. That's why most people like to have a good car, to keep looking at it. Some people don't think it's mine. After I show them the title, they be kind of surprised.

THREE LEVEL GUIDE: THE SUPERFLY CAR

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

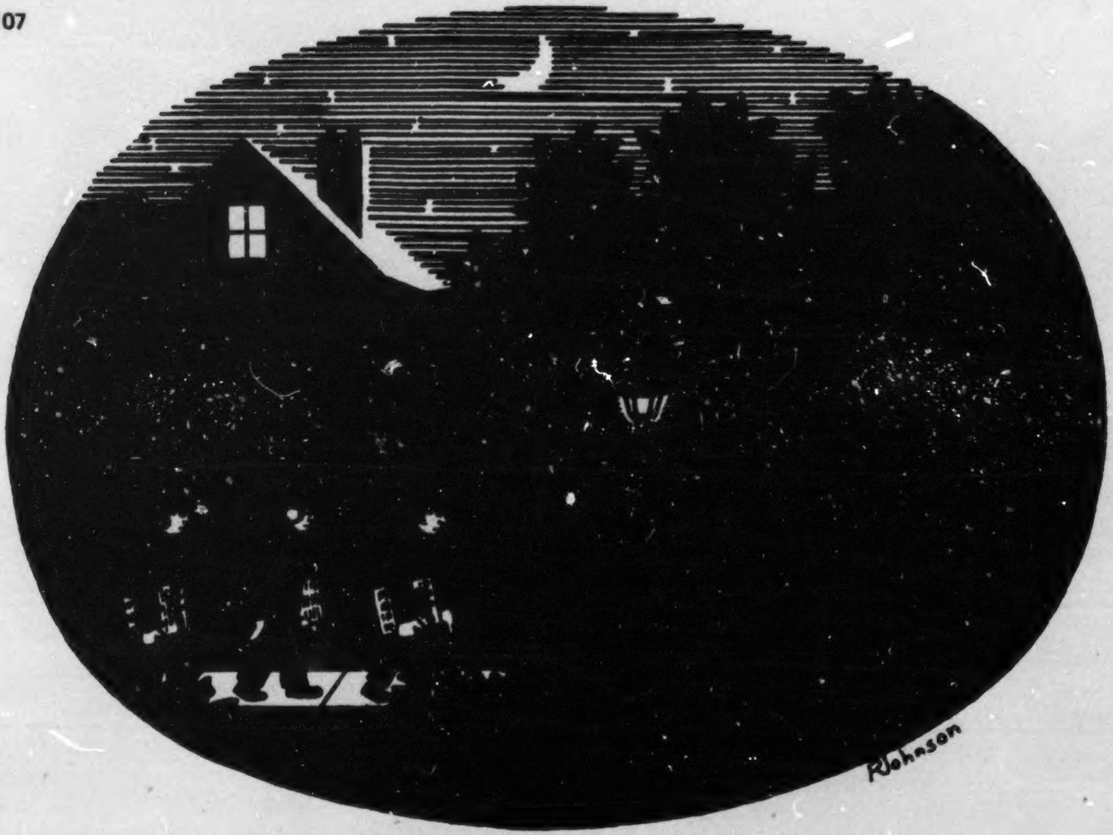
1. What was so good about it was that it had a real good radio.
2. I washed the car twice a week.
3. After I showed them the title they still wouldn't believe it was mine.
4. The cop said, "I like your car, it's really cool."
5. I ended up saving about $5,000 out of my pay for that car.

II What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

6. The author didn't know that people were looking at him with more respect after he got his car.
7. A new car goes much better with a new set of clothes.
8. A car always seems to run better with a new set of clothes.
9. The author wasn't proud of the fact that he had to save little by little to buy his car.
10. Most people have a good car to make for comfortable driving.

III How can we use the meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

11. You can have some real good things in life without being a millionaire.
12. A person is measured many times by the way he looks and the things he owns.
13. Flashy people and flashy cars attract more attention than others.
14. People enjoy having cars and things, which helps make them feel confident.
15. It feels much better when you work and put some of yourself into the things you own and make them fit your style.



PAPER BOY

by Roy Willard Gray

When I was about twelve I started working as a paper boy. I had about four different jobs as a paper boy. I was taking the Richmond Times and the Daily Progress. The Richmond Times was the best job, but I had to get up at three o'clock in the morning to take papers. It was in the winter time when it was really cold. I had to put on two pairs of pants and two coats. It was dark outside so you could hardly see the street.

I did the route with two friends, Mann and Bobby. So when I got up I would go by Mann's house and pick him up and then go by Ridge Street and get Bobby. Then we'd go down to the Richmond Times Dispatch and pick up the papers that would be lying out front. All three of us would take a pile and go three different ways. I always took downtown and put the papers in front of all the stores or in their mailboxes. Then we'd go up Ridge Street and just throw them on the porch. After we finished Ridge Street we'd just dump the extra paper in a trash can. Then we'd go home and go to bed and get up the next morning and go to school. We used to walk because it was too cold to ride our bikes.

In the evening time when we got out of school we'd take the Daily Progress. Me and my little brother Frankie used to take that. After a while I got tired of that because the man always used to try to get me to collect. As long as he got his money he didn't care if you got your money. While I was delivering papers I used to have to collect the money from the customer. I started collecting on Thursdays from each person. After you collected the money you had about thirty six dollars for the bossman, but we only got about fourteen dollars. So, I got tired of that so I quit. It was fourteen dollars for working a whole week. The Richmond Times paid good. You could make about fifty dollars a week. But by the time you divided it up we had about seventeen dollars a piece. Something like that, you know. All three of us was taking papers. It was kind of a partnership. After a while I got tired of getting up so early in the morning and going out in the cold. That's when I knew it was time to quit that job too. So I quit. But taking papers isn't a bad job. It was a good thing for me then.

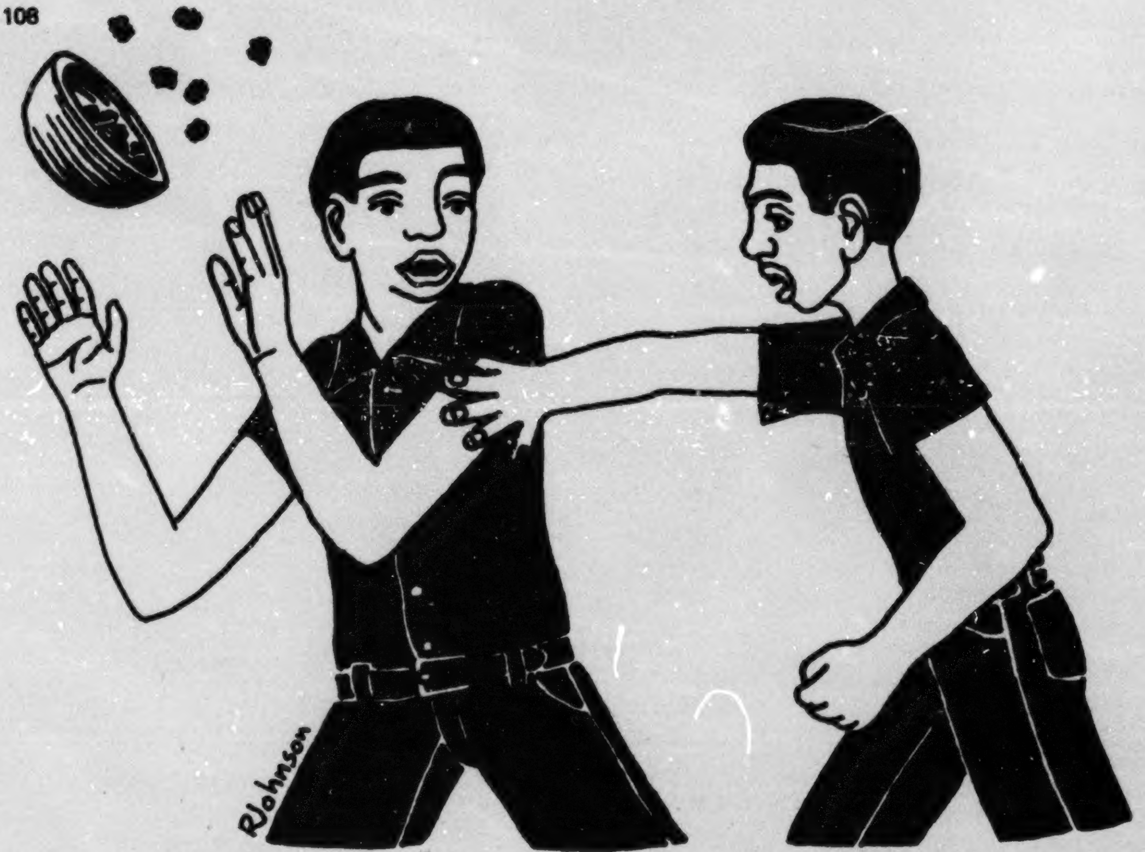
THREE LEVEL GUIDE: PAPER BOY

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
1. When I was twelve I started working as a paper boy.
2. I did three routes all by myself.
3. We took the extra papers down on a busy corner and sold them.
4. As long as you got your money, the boss didn't care if he got his.
5. I usually started collecting on Thursdays.

II What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
6. While the author worked delivering papers he had to follow the rule of "early to bed, early to rise."
7. Taking papers is just an all around bad job.
8. The author got tired of doing all the work and getting only half of the money.
9. Between running the paper route and going to school the author had little time for other things.
10. The dirty work of the paper business is collecting from the customers.

III How can we use the meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
11. A paper route can teach a young boy to be a wise businessman.
12. The only reward from a job is the money you can earn.
13. Sometimes a business isn't worth the time and effort put into it.
14. An equal sharing of the work always gets the job done better and faster.
15. A paper route is a good way to become rich.



FIGHTING OVER BLACKBERRIES

by Clifford Fortune

This story is about blackberries and how they taught me a lesson. One hot summer, me and Ricky, we was outdoors. And I went and picked some blackberries and split them with Ricky. Ricky, he was building a house beside the duck pen. So we got the house up and we was eating our blackberries inside the house. And Ricky had sugar on his blackberries and I didn't have sugar on mine. So I came outdoors with my blackberries, out of the house that we had built. And Ricky said, "You better not have my blackberries."

And I didn't say nothing.

And then I said, "These blackberries taste good." So Ricky dived into the house and I started eating blackberries. All of a sudden Ricky grabbed me and pushed me. We got to fighting and Ricky hit me in the eye and I got a black eye. I gave Ricky a bloody nose. And then we tussled and tussled and tussled. And then we went right through the ceiling of that house that we built and the house came down. We started fighting and then finally we made it, we found that there wasn't no sense in fighting.

And I said, "Ricky, your nose is bleeding."

And he said, "You got a black eye." So we started laughing.

Ricky said, "Get out there and run for a while, it'll go down." So I started running. Ricky had me running in a circle and running in a circle.

So that night when we went in our mother asked us what happened to my eye. So me and Ricky told a lie, we said we was playing shooting guns and I pulled the stick back and it got me in the eye. And after that, me and Ricky went in the room and set down. And Carlos came in. And then Sonny came in and they had a whole lot of beer. Carlos asked me what happened to my eye. And Ricky said, "We was playing guns and he got hit in the eye."

Sonny say, "You all lie, you all were fighting."

And Ricky started laughing and I started laughing. Then I stopped laughing and me and Ricky got in a little argument. But we dropped the argument and went to bed. Me and Ricky had learned our lesson about arguing over silly things.

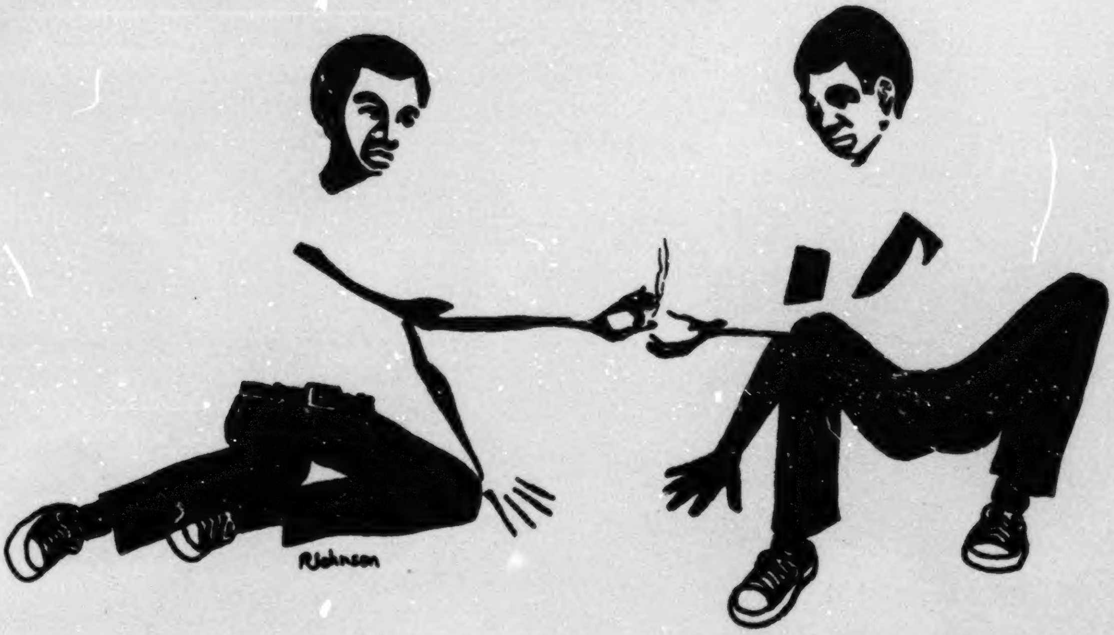
THREE LEVEL GUIDE: FIGHTING OVER BLACKBERRIES

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
1. Ricky said, "You can have all the blackberries you want."
2. We found that there was no sense for fighting.
3. Ricky said, "We was playing guns and he got hit in the eye."
4. Sonny said, "You all lie, you all were fighting."
5. Get out there and run for a while and your nose will stop bleeding.

II What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
6. "Dropped the argument" means they stopped arguing because there was no need to argue.
7. Ricky got mad because he didn't have any sugar on his blackberries.
8. Your friends know when you're lying even when your parents don't.
9. Telling a lie didn't hurt because the boys had already learned their lesson.
10. The boys tussled and tussled means they fought roughly for a long while.

III How can we use the meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
11. Fighting is a poor solution to any argument.
12. It's a good feeling to be able to look back and laugh at your mistakes.
13. You end up causing more trouble than you started with when you fight.
14. Fighting is for people who won't stop to think about what they're fighting for.
15. Fights are usually started over simple misunderstandings.



HOW WE CAN HELP KIDS TODAY

by Vincent L. Anthony

I have two kids of my own and I want to raise them right. I don't want my kids going through what I have been through and jail is one of them. And that's not only my kids — all kids.

When I was 12 years old, I was still playing hide and go seek. And now, kids 9 years old are smoking marijuana, drinking alcohol, taking drugs and smoking cigarettes, and gambling and robbing.

That's one reason why I want to spend my time with kids. To keep them from getting into trouble.

The problem of young kids is where they are from — their environment. With older kids, from 18 on up, it can be a problem with their family. If they didn't get anything from their family, the only way they could do it was break the law.

But the family is the last source of the problem.

I come from a real nice family — one of the best. No, *the* best. I committed my crime due to the kind of people I was running around with.

Something that I think will help kids out is for more teenagers, from 16 - 24, to program the kids. Take them where they can have some fun, parks, amusement parks, bowling, skating, swimming and stuff like that. There's one thing that will keep a kid out of trouble and that's fun.

The main people that I feel that should communicate with the younger kids is people that have been confined. Because of being confined you have a realistic view of Jail. Grownups today that have kids can't really communicate with them.

Times have changed since my mother was young. Young people take people's word that's just a little bit older before they'll take their parent's or an adult's word. If an adult walked up to a young teenager and says, "Times is hard." They would say, "What does he know." But if some dude a little older than him says to the kid, "Times is hard." He'd look and say, what that dude, only 10 years older than me, "Times must be hard."

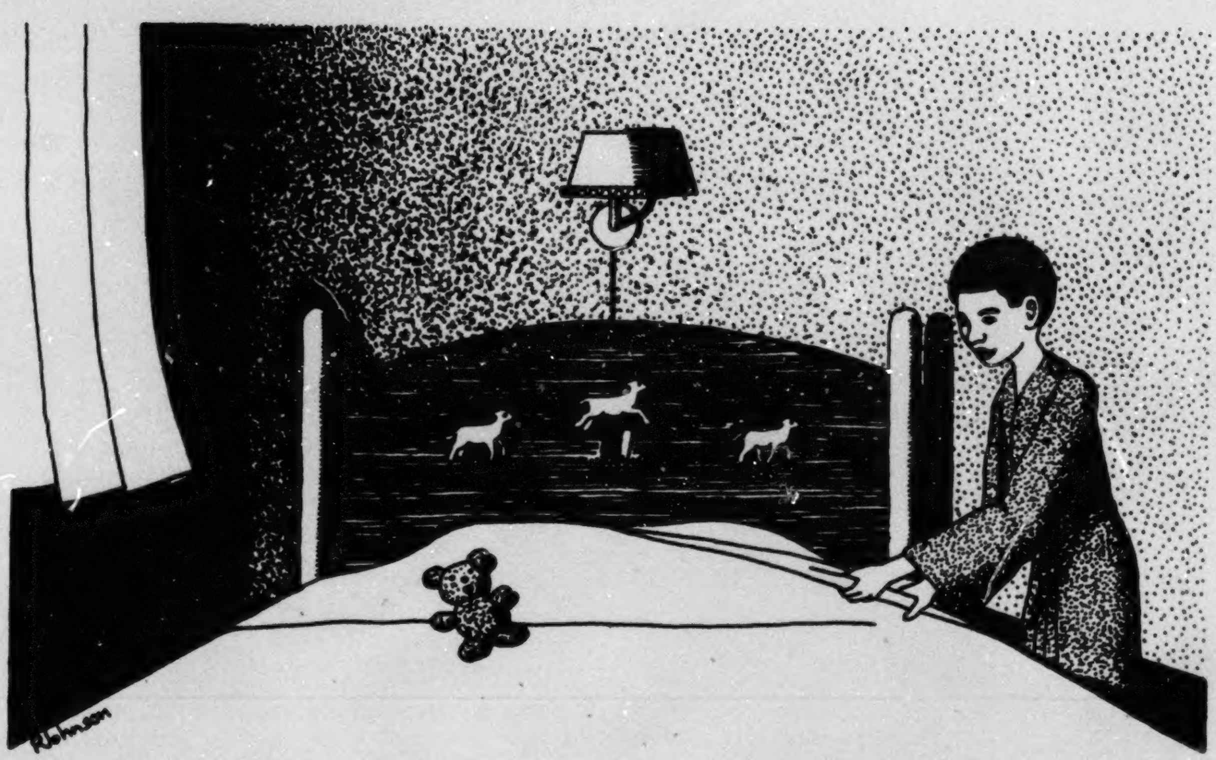
THREE LEVEL GUIDE: HOW WE CAN HELP KIDS TODAY

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
1. I have two kids of my own.
2. When I was 12 years old I was smoking marijuana, drinking alcohol . . .
3. The problem of young kids is their environment.
4. Grownups communicate well with kids.
5. If an older person says, "Times is hard," kids will believe them.

II What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
6. Teenagers should help out with younger kids.
7. The author has a realistic view of jail.
8. Parents really understand their children.
9. People who have been confined shouldn't work with kids.
10. Kids will believe people closer to their age than their parents.

III How can we use the meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
11. Young men can really help keep kids out of trouble.
12. A strict home life with much punishment by parents will cure all problems in raising kids.
13. Wise men are men who have lived through it all before.
14. People should not change with the times.
15. If we provided more fun for kids, there would be less crime.



MY DAUGHTER SARAH

by Dorothy Rush

My daughter is six years old and she can clean up everything! Sometimes when I don't clean up, she'll go ahead and do it herself. She wants to help me. She likes to make her bed.

I like to read the Bible to her. She likes to read books and things. She wants to know how to read. Sometimes she likes to read her Bible guide. She really likes to read that.

Sometimes she likes to do other things. She likes to play. She likes to play with other children. Sometimes they hit and call her dumb. I told her to ignore them and don't worry about what the children says. I told her that she is more good than somebody else. Don't be worried about what peoples says because people always says things whether they lying or not.

I don't know right now what she wants to be when she grows up. She always wants to read the Bible and she wants to go to church. She knows how to sing. Some songs she sings in church.

Sometime I be sick and she don't want me to be sick all the time. Everytime I get sick, she cry.

I am proud of her.

THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: MY DAUGHTER, SARAF

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of true statements.

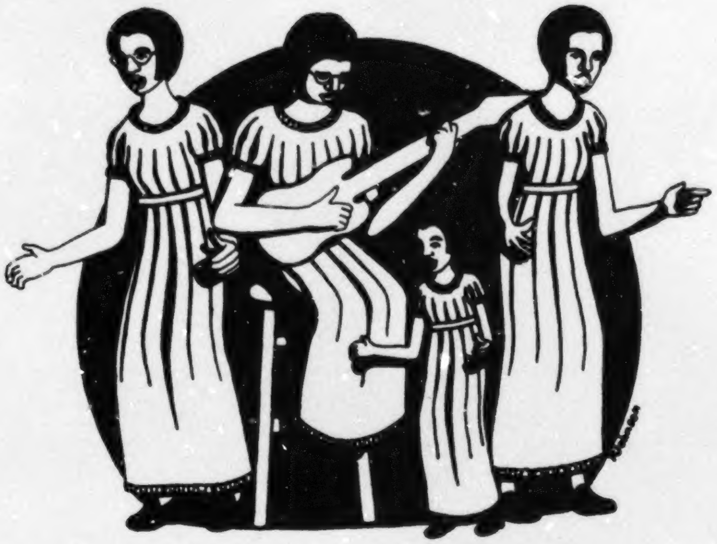
1. My daughter is six years old and she can clean up everything!
2. She wants to know how to read.
3. I told my daughter to listen to everything people tell her.
4. I know right now what my daughter wants to be.
5. Everytime I get sick, she cry.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

6. The author is proud of her daughter.
7. Ignore means to pay attention to what someone is saying or what someone is doing.
8. Sometimes children can be cruel.
9. The author's daughter likes to do many things but she doesn't like to help her mother.
10. Sarah really cares about her mother.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

11. Children can learn how to clean up when they are young.
12. It helps to teach children to ignore what some people say.
13. It is not important to learn how to read.
14. Doing the things you like when you are young can help you decide what you want to be when you are older.
15. You are proud of someone only when they clean up.



MY WISH

By Mary Belle Johnson

As I was growing up, I wanted to do something interesting with my life. To do that I had to talk to mother and Dad. Mother was at work at the time I was thinking about it. I cleaned up and I cooked and washed clothes.

Mother came in around four o'clock. She sat and talked. She said it was so hot at the house where she worked and the days were so long. The days seemed long because she was working but if she would have been home, they would have been short.

Mother looked in the ice box to get some milk. She set the table. As we sat there, I said,

"May I ask you something mother?"

"Yes," she replied.

But I didn't ask. I said, "I wish I had an old guitar."

"What would you do with it?" she asked.

"Play it."

"Are you sure?"

"Yes."

She said, "Sister, would you put some wood in the stove?"

She used to call me "sister" because I was the oldest girl.

"Your wish may come true," she added.

About three or four weeks passed. I thought mother had forgotten it. But then I knew she wasn't working but part-time. She wasn't making much. I knew if she could, she would. I was patient. But I thought my wish would never come true.

At the age of eighteen, my brother was working at an old shirt factory. He surprised me with an old box guitar. I used to try and play it at night. I used to put wood in the old stove. The house was so cold. I was afraid I would never play. But mother used to say, "If at first you don't succeed, try and try again." So I didn't give up. It came out all right. I got better and better.

In 1975, I was called to an old country house to play. After that I was called to a country church. I had six singers then. We sing spirituals. A special song that we used to sing was "Pray on My Child." Also I had a soloist then. Her name was Carnita Johnson, my daughter. By that time I could play a little better.

Then I was called to Jefferson School to play. I had a new soloist with me – she was four years old. She was my granddaughter.

In 1976 we were called to Washington and Richmond. At first I was nervous. Finally I didn't pay any mind after I got used to it. We had a wonderful time.

Then I was called to Mt. Vernon Baptist Church to surrender a program – do the whole program. We got a little donation for that. We call our group the Johnson singers. In it are my daughter, my daughter-in-law, and my grandaughter.

My wish did come true. My mother had told me "If you want something hard enough, your wish will come true." And it did.

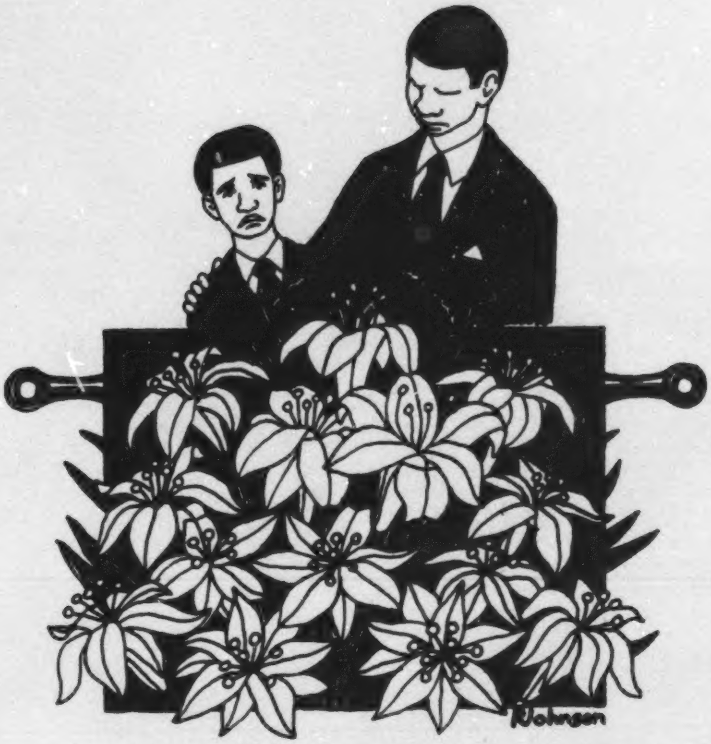
THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: MY WISH

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
1. I didn't want to do anything when I was young, just sit around and be lazy.
2. I wish I had an old guitar.
3. I just gave up on wishing for a guitar.
4. He surprised me with an old piano.
5. I was called to an old country house to play.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
6. The author wanted to do something other than cleaning, cooking and washing.
7. "If at first you don't succeed try and try again" meant that the author had to practice in order to be good at playing the guitar.
8. People don't always use the things they ask for once they get them.
9. The author enjoyed performing with members of her family.
10. A patient person wants what he wants right away.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
11. Wishing gets youe everything you want, youn never have to work for it.
12. Wishes always come true as soon as you make the wish.
13. We can't always tell what people are planning for us.
14. A patient person always gets what he wants.
15. Most of the time success comes about because somebody has worked hard.



MOTHER'S DEATH

By Harry Darras

It was on a Friday when my mother started getting sick. She started getting worser and worser. My father wanted to rush her out to the hospital but she said to leave her alone. She said she was going to die Monday at 6:00.

We decided to take her to the hospital. Everybody in the family was worried about her. Monday all the kids got up to go to school. Before we left, my father came in. He was crying and calling my two sisters to the side and told them. I seen my two sisters running into the bedroom crying and I knew what happened.

My father sent me to my aunt's house on the farm to keep me from thinking about it. When I went to the funeral and was walking into the door, I was all right. I saw a coffin but I still couldn't believe it was my mother in it. My father came up and got me and walked me down to the coffin. And that's when it all happened – I started hollering and screaming. He took me downstairs and left me alone with my two sisters. My sisters started talking to me and got me calmed down. I was wondering who going to raise me to the size of my father. If it wasn't for my two sisters sticking together and helping the family out the way they did, we would have never made it this far.

THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: MOTHER'S DEATH

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number corresponding to the true statement.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

1. It was on a Friday when my mother died.
2. My father wanted to rush her to the hospital, but she said to leave her alone.
3. We never took her to the hospital.
4. Everybody in the family was worried about her.
5. I wondered who was going to raise me to the size of my father.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

6. In those days people didn't try to explain death to children.
7. He didn't know what was going on when he saw his two sisters run into the bedroom crying.
8. The author is grateful to his two sisters.
9. The author had already grown as tall as his father when his mother died.
10. The funeral didn't bother the author a bit.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

11. A funeral is a scary thing for a child.
12. When a mother dies, it leaves a wake of affect on her family.
13. Life is harder if your mother dies.
14. Death is just another every day event.
15. Older sisters can really help a kid through a crisis.

SWEET COUNTRY LIFE

By Betty Michie

When I was about 11 years old we moved to the country. We had a lot of fun in the country. There were beautiful flowers everywhere. We lived in an orchard, and there we had apples all around us. Sweet, juicy, and red big apples. One day when I was on my way to school, a bunch of bees got behind me. And one day I didn't want to go to school so I ran further up into the orchard so no one could find me. The other day I was late getting on the bus and the bus was coming and I ran across the pipe. You see we had a little creek in front of our house so we put a pipe across it. I didn't know that the pipe was slippery. So I ran across the pipe and fell right in the water. To make it so bad, the water was icy cold. And my sister came running to get me out of the water. We go catching butterflies and all kinds of things.

I wish that we were still living in the country. I love the country very, very much. In the summer time it is so beautiful everything seems to bloom out all at once. But when fall comes, it is more prettier than ever. In the country it is so peaceful and quiet, no fighting or arguments like in Charlottesville. I know that every place has those things but Charlottesville has them all.

I would always be up in the apple tree, and my mother would yell and holler, "Betty, get out of the apple tree." Once my foot slipped and I fell out of the tree. And the apples I had picked came tumbling out with me. I into one and a great big old worm came out. I didn't know my sister was eating and when I threw the apple the worm fell out in her plate. And she chased me all through the orchard and across the creek. And I threw a rock at her. Then I threw another rock and hit the beehive and all the bees came after her and me. They stung her but they missed me.

When snow had come, we got out there and made a snowman, and we had a snowball fight. Then the snow had frozen and we went sliding on the ice. The water in the creek had turned into ice. So we got out there and started sliding on the ice. My sister slipped and hurt herself and we all laughed at her. And right after I laughed at her, I fell down.

One warm day we all went hiking! Me and my two sisters Louise and Pauline. We ran down the hill and while still running I rolled. And my sisters laughed at me.

I told my mother that I wanted to move back to the country but she told me no. I had a lot of friends in the country! I miss all of my friends in the country. I wish that all of my friends up here could go down to the country where I used to live and see it. Down in the country you wouldn't get in much trouble. On weekends was the best part for me. Then I could stay home and enjoy that sweet country life.

THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: SWEET COUNTRY LIFE

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. **What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.**

1. We had a lot of fun in the country.
2. In the country people fight and argue.
3. When the snow had come, we got out there and made a snowman, and we had a snowball fight.
4. But when fall comes, it is prettier than ever.
5. I had only a few friends in the country.

II. **What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.**

6. The author liked city life better than she did country life.
7. An orchard is a place where fruit trees grow.
8. The author was very active and playful when she lived in the country.
9. The author wishes that some of her friends could have a chance to enjoy the country like she did.
10. To tumble means to fall suddenly.

III. **How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.**

11. Most of the time the country is very peaceful.
12. Some people think that the country is a bore and can't be fun.
13. You can grow apples, oranges, or lemons in an orchard.
14. City life and country life are exactly the same.
15. There is nothing beautiful about the country.

FIRE WATCHING

By Pete Osman

I bought me a police radio and it monitors fires. I started going to fires back in '73. The first fire I went to was the Main Street fire in '73. About four buildings burned. The fire and smoke was pouring out. So I left the fire and went over to the park and watched a softball game. And then I went back for awhile. All the fire trucks was down there. There was 3 from Charlottesville, and 1 each from East Rivanna, Earlysville, North Garden, Scottsville, and Albemarle. They was working on it. They gave it a fit. After they got the fire out, they got all the equipment back in the trucks. They all went back to their fire stations.

A friend of mine is a volunteer fireman. They got lights on their car. He goes on over to the fire in a hurry.

The last one I went to was about two weeks ago. It was at a trailer court off of Fifth Street. When I got there the trailer was burned to the ground. The people got out. There was two fires at that trailer court within a year. It melts a trailer right down, it gets so hot. They're like bales of straw.

My house burned twice. I wasn't at home. The first time, I went to meet somebody. Mom was at work. She saw the fire trucks go by. Then about five minutes later the fire chief called her at work to tell her the house was on fire. I was on my way home. I got down the street next to it and a policeman told me that I couldn't go down there. I asked what the address was and he said, "1829 Jefferson Park Avenue."

I said, "Why can't I go down there?"

And he said, "You got no business down there."

I said, "I do now. That's my house!"

He said, "You can go on then."

When I got there the whole place was on fire. They put it out with water. They were like bulls in a china shop. They busted every window in the house. The landlord fixed the house. We moved back there and lived there. So one night we was invited out to dinner at a friend's house. Se we ate and I walked over town for awhile. I called Mom over at this friend's house. And she told me that I'd better get home right away, that the house was on fire. So when I got there to see if I couldn't get my mother's dog out. And I said, "Well, where is he?" And he pointed to him. He was setting there, looking up at the house watching the fire burn.

THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: FIRE WATCHING

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

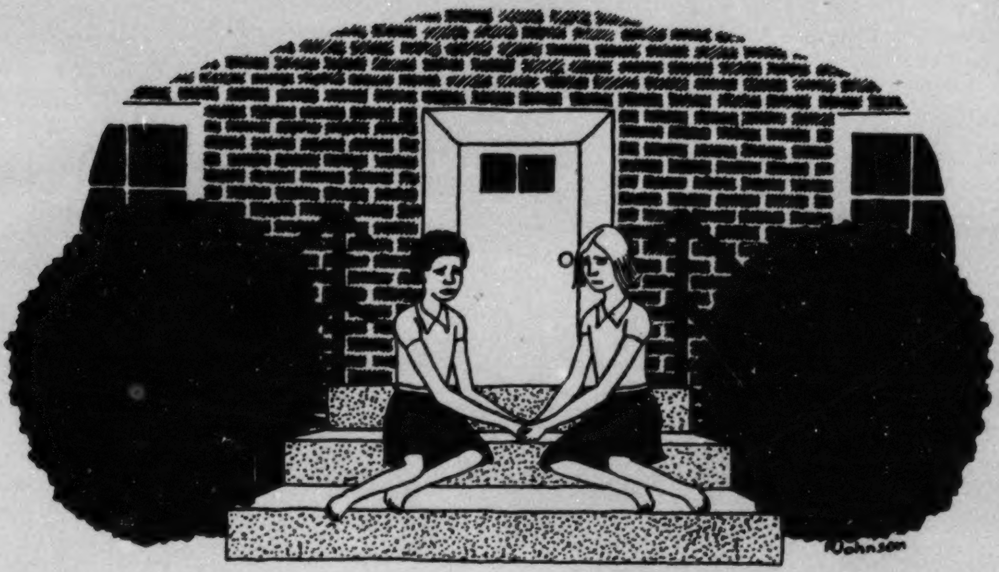
1. The first fire I went to was the Scottsville fire.
2. The Main Street fire of '73 called for alot of fire trucks.
3. Trailers burn easily, like bales of straw.
4. The policeman wouldn't let the author go down there when he found out it was his house.
5. The firemen were like bulls in a china shop.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

6. Mom knew our house was on fire when she saw the trucks go by her work.
7. The title "Fire Watching" refers both to the author and the dog.
8. The house was back involved again means the house was on fire again.
9. The author cared about his mother's dog.
10. A bull in a china shop would probably break lots of things.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

11. If there is a fire at your house, there may be more damage than just what is burned.
12. After a fire, you can never live in a house again.
13. The fireman will let anyone go close to a burning building.
14. If you buy a trailer, you should make sure it's fire proof.
15. Firemen lead a quiet life and can plan ahead.



PARADISE LOST

by Justina M. Watson

In 1967 we moved to 823 A Hardy Drive in Charlottesville. When we first moved in Westhaven it was a beautiful place Everybody seemed to nice to everyone. There were no fights And what made it so good, black and white lived there together. My first friend was a white girl named Sharon. We used to go everywhere together.

Then one day this black family and this white family got into a big fight. The police were up in Westhaven. Everything went up in smoke. About two weeks later the same black family was sending a paper around. They were saying they wanted the whites out of Westhaven. Almost everybody signed it except 29 people. So they had a meeting about it.

Two days later my friend came up to my house and said they had to move. I started to cry because I'm black and Sharon is white and I knew how she felt. Sharon told me that her mother

and father said we could no longer be friends. I think I felt bad and that's one time in my life when bad luck really affected me.

In 1975 they had to change everybody around in the Projects because the families wasn't hitting it off so good. So they put us in 812 E. That's where I live now. I just hate it in Westhaven because I don't think it's a nice place to raise a child. Yes, I'm young but I have feelings, too. And I have a child. And it hurts to know that blacks and whites can't always get along. It hurts to know I have to raise my child in a world like the world today.

Sometimes I think back and I think about Sharon. I wonder if she thinks about what happened. I wonder if she thinks about me. I think about her and I wonder if she lives in another state. Sharon wherever you are, I miss you. I hope I see you again.

THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: PARADISE LOST

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

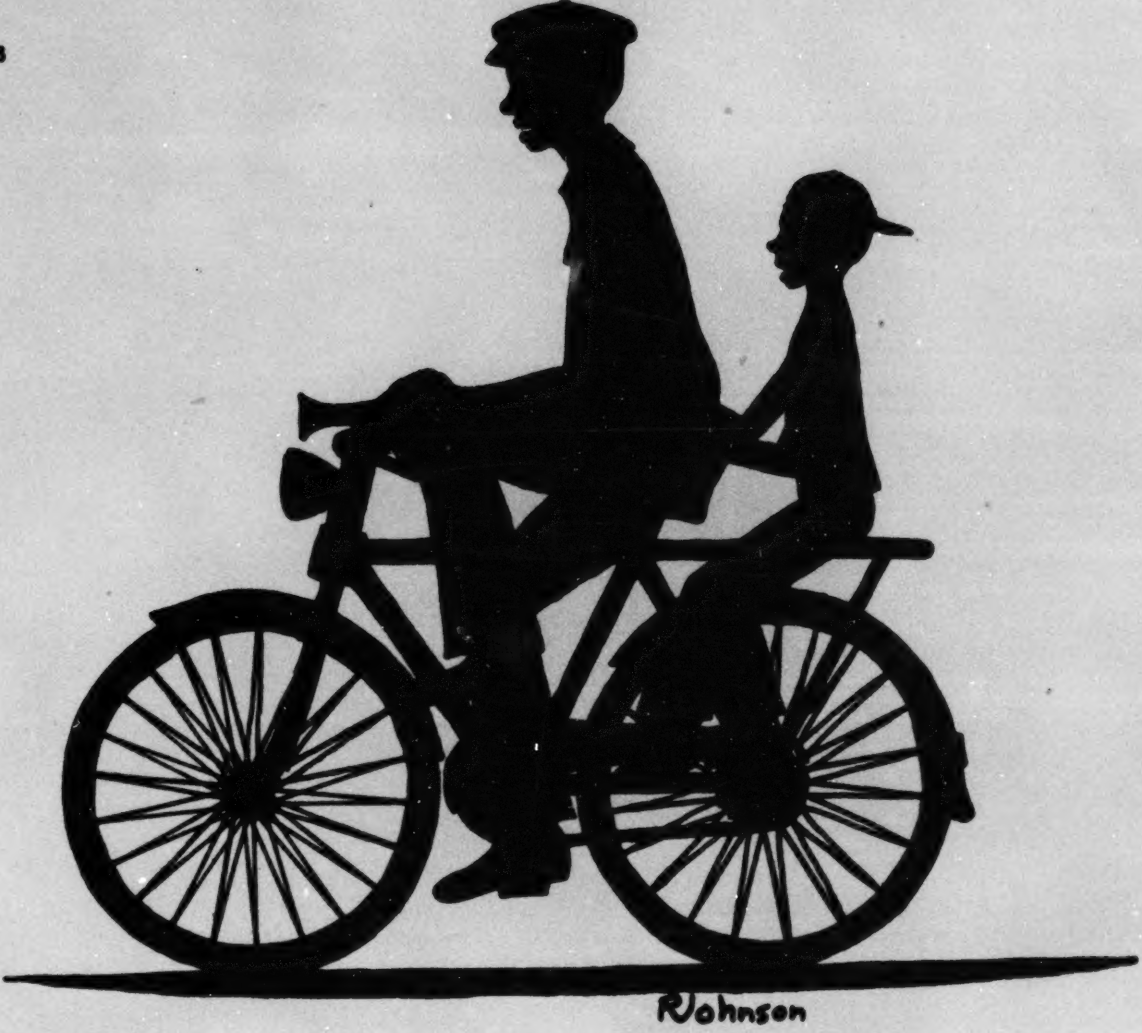
1. In 1967 we moved to Hardy Drive
2. When we first moved to Westhaven it was a big ugly old place.
3. Sharon was my best friend.
4. The blacks had to leave Westhaven.
5. In 1975, we moved to Chicago.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

6. The author didn't think blacks and whites could be friends.
7. Affected means had an influence on your life.
8. The author understood how Sharon felt.
9. The author didn't want to accept the world as it is.
10. The title "Paradise Lost" means trouble changed a good place.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

11. If blacks and whites lived together peacefully, the world would be a better place.
12. Fights can separate friends.
13. It's hard to find a good place to raise a child today.
14. Blacks and whites should live in separate parts of town.
15. People shouldn't let two fighting families ruin things for everyone else.



MANN

By Eddie Smith

I love to carry my little nephew, Mann, where I go because he cares more about me than my own brothers. I used to carry Mann down to the movies all the time. My brother's wife knows I like to do things with him. He call me Uncle Eddie. Mann told me on the phone that he missed me. He told me he went up to my grandmother's to see if I back home. He said he missed going out to eat with me and my girlfriend. My girlfriend is crazy about him because he is small and sweet. Sometimes Mann's little sister wants to go, too. He be mad and say, "Why her go, too?"

He likes to do alot of things. He likes me to carry him on a bicycle. Most of the time when I carry Mann to the movie, he falls asleep on me. One day I was off from work and I carry him there to meet my boss man. I take him to the park to play ball. Sometimes he gets mad because I don't let him ride on my shoulders. He's famous for riding on my shoulders.

When I be at home looking at television, sometimes Mann cries because he doesn't want to go back home to his mother. I will be glad when I can carry him out again.

THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: MANN

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

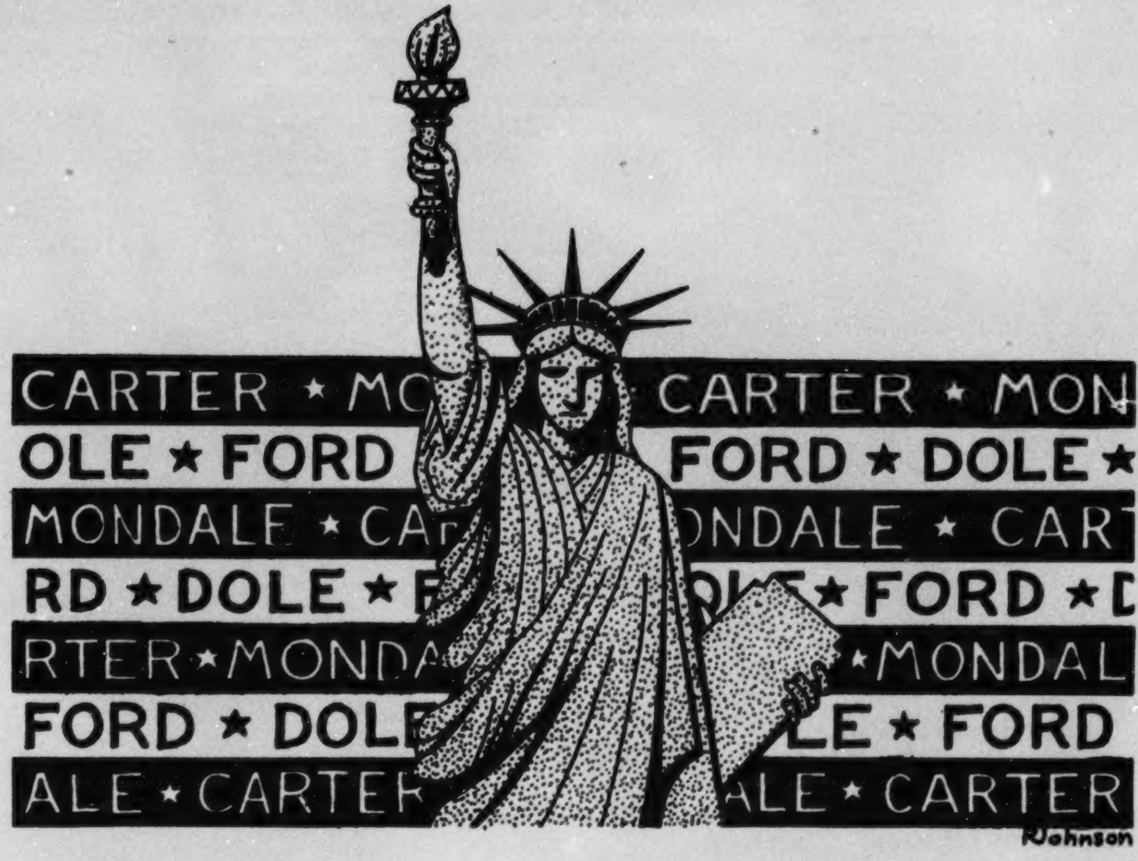
1. I used to carry Mann down to the movies all the time.
2. He called me Big Daddy.
3. My girlfriend is crazy about him because he is small and sweet.
4. Mann only likes to play ball in the park.
5. I will be glad when I can carry him out again.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

6. The author likes to take his nephew to different places.
7. The author's nephew has never missed him.
8. Mann likes to have his uncle all to himself.
9. Everyone knows that Mann likes to ride on his uncle's shoulders.
10. When Mann knows that his uncle is at home, he likes to be there with him.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

11. A nephew can never care as much about you as your own brother.
12. When children miss doing something with you, they'll usually let you know it.
13. Children always like to share the fun that they are having, especially with a brother or sister.
14. There are only a few fun things that a person can do with a child.
15. Doing things with children can be fun both for the children and the adult.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RTER ★ MONDA
★ MONDAL
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ELECTION DAY

By Raymond Harris

It was like this. I came to school. When I got here, Harry told me that Tom had gone up to my house to take me to vote. Then I waited down here till about twelve thirty. Then I went home. And when I got home, I left and went to see some basketball. And then I left and went over to my step-mama's. I got up by the red light and I saw Tom coming down Wertland.

He pulled into the alley and I got in. He backed out and then we went on to the place. It was at Venable School. There were a whole lot of people there. They had signs on the wall telling you how to work the machine. I got a yellow sheet telling me how to work the machine.

Then I hit the line. They asked my name and my address. I said, "1023 Wertland Street." I was the only young black dude there. I saw women, but I didn't see no men. I waited in line and the woman was going to let a man go ahead of me. I said,

"Wait a minute, I've been waiting here longer than this man, I was first and I should be first since I was the first one here."

He had a kid in his hands. So I did hurry. When I got in there, I pulled Carter and that dude whose name started with Z. All the questions I voted, "No, No, No." Then I opened the thing and left. But when I left, everybody was watching me. So I turned and saluted them. I was having fun. It made me feel good to vote.

This morning my aunt called out, "Raymond, Raymond, get up, Ford won."

And I said, "You're joking!" She said, "No, Carter won."

I said, "Yea."

Then I went by my step-mama's house and told her daughter, "Tell your Mama Carter won."

And then I came to school. I was feeling happy yesterday, thinking, "I voted. I helped pick the President." I wish him luck.

THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: ELECTION DAY

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number corresponding to the true statement.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

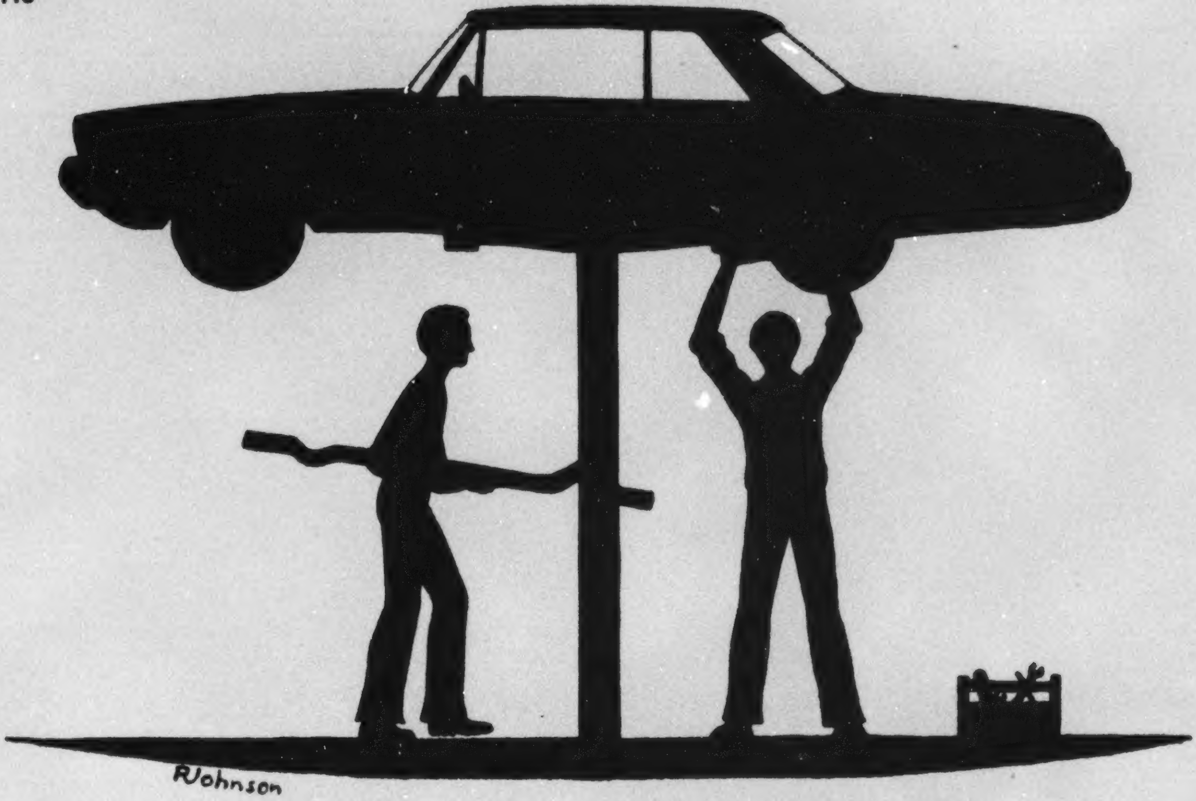
1. When I got there, Harry told me that Tom had gone up to my house to take me to vote.
2. They didn't give you anything to tell you how to work the machine.
3. There were about twenty young black dudes there waiting in line.
4. It made me feel good to vote.
5. I helped pick the president.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

6. It was awhile before the author made it down to the school to vote.
7. There weren't many people voting on Election Day.
8. There were signs on the wall telling you how to use the voting machine because everyone didn't know.
9. The author felt that everyone should wait their turn in line.
10. The author was happy that he voted but he was upset that the man he voted for didn't win.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

11. Every person who can vote should vote.
12. People always know why they vote a certain way.
13. No one should ever see who a person votes for.
14. You can help elect a person both by voting and not voting.
15. Some people know how special it is to be able to vote and they are glad about it.



MECHANICS ARE PEOPLE TOO

By Ardell Heath

Mechanics are people, too. They work on cars and trucks and buses. And so many other things. They have to know how to take apart motors. And they have to know how to take out the batteries when the batteries run dead. Also, they have to watch how to take the thing apart without shocking theirselves.

My cousin, he's a mechanic. He fix motors and he put tires on the cars and he paints cars. He gets paid on the first and the fifteenth of every month. He makes good money. He works for a shop.

I have a whole lot of friends that always come over on weekends. They always ask for my cousin, George. A lot of times something is wrong with their cars. They need George to fix them. They don't know how to do it. Without him, they would probably try to fix it theirselves. They might fix it wrong, so he helps them out. Cars, buses, trucks, all forms of transportation are helped by mechanics. Traffic would stop without them. They are important.

THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: MECHANICS ARE PEOPLE TOO

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number corresponding to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check by the number of the true statements.

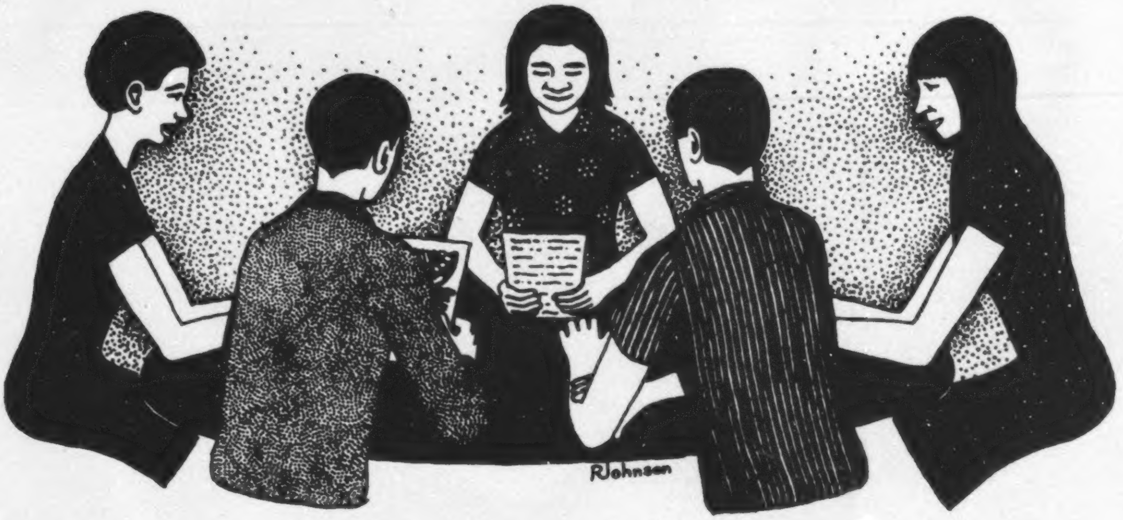
1. Mechanics work on cars, trucks and buses.
2. Mechanics don't make much money.
3. I have a whole lot of friends that come over on week-ends.
4. My cousin, he's a mechanic.
5. My friends fix their own cars.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check by the number of the true statements.

6. Transportation means going across the ocean.
7. The author thinks it's important to be a mechanic.
8. "Mechanics are people, too" means that they are human.
9. George is popular because he can fix cars.
10. Mechanics sometimes help their friends out.

III. How can we use the meanings? Put a check by the number of the true statements.

11. It's easy to take a car apart without shocking yourself.
12. You would probably only get paid once a month if you were a mechanic.
13. All traffic would stop without mechanics.
14. Everyone goes straight to their nearest car dealer to get their car fixed.
15. There is always work for mechanics.



SCHOOL

By Freeda Evans

When I first started to school, I wasn't hardly able to pay my bills like other people. I went to town and bought my food stamps and my groceries on the first of every month. And then I wouldn't go back into town unless I had to. I didn't get out very much at all.

I thought about starting school at the time I was trying to find me a part-time job at the Employment Office. I got a letter from the Employment Office. I thought it was a job so I went down to the office. And I talked to them and they told me that there weren't any jobs to be found. I told them that I was interested in starting to school. I had to get into doing something. At the time I was taking about six or seven kinds of medicine. So I have been coming to school for a right good while now. Between me and the doctor and my school, I have been really feeling a lot better.

The Employment Office keeps in touch with me about a part-time job and they ask me how am I doing in school. When I get up in the morning, I look forward to coming to school. I meet all different types of people at school.There are young people, mothers, middle-aged people. All the young people has been real nice to me.And I sure appreciate that. It is really interesting talking to the different people. And we have some fine teachers. They really work good with us.

At first I felt shy. Since I've been coming to school, I feel more open. And the things that I don't know, I ask and they take time to explain it to me.

Now I enjoy grocery shopping. I pay my bills. I go visit the sick. Once in awhile something comes up about politics. I don't know a lot about it, but I think if I hang in school, I will learn.

People say to me, "Gee, what do you do with your time?"

And I say, "Well, I am in school half a day. And I do all my house work and I mow my yard and I have a daughter 13 years old. I am a mother and father too. And you can see what I'm going through. I keep her in school. I think I have got about all I can handle at one time and I don't want to over-do it."

THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: SCHOOL

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number corresponding to the true statement.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

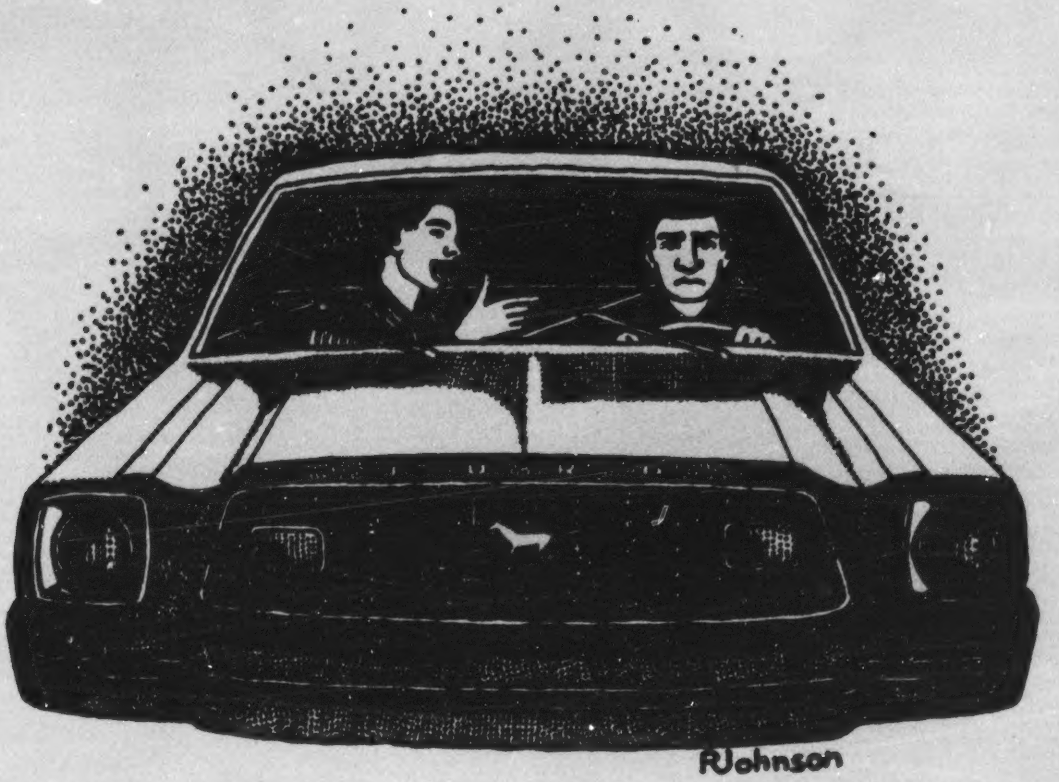
1. I thought about starting school at the time I was trying to find a part-time job at the Employment Office.
2. Since I've had a job, I have been feeling a lot better.
3. And the things that I don't know, I ask and they take time to explain them to me.
4. About the only thing I have time to do is to go to school.
5. I quit school because I didn't want to overdo it.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

6. The author stayed at home a lot before she started school.
7. When the author stated that she feels more open since she's been coming to school, she meant that she is more at ease and relaxed.
8. Going to school helped the author to enjoy doing other things.
9. "I am a mother and a father, too" means a person is a single parent.
10. In school the author gets the attention she needs when she has a question.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

11. The Employment Office tries to find jobs for interested people.
12. Only people who are the same age go to school together.
13. Going to school gives you an opportunity to be around interesting people.
14. Every woman wants to sit home every day and watch television.
15. A person can go to school at any age.



TEST DRIVING A LEMON

by Raymond Harris

I got my learner's permit. Then I said to myself, "I'm going to be rolling now!" So I got a job at the Boar's Head Inn. I wasn't making but $70.00 a week. I had it all planned. I was going to save up for this Mustang.

I went to test drive it. I had my cousin, William, with me. He's got his license. So I put it in drive. Man, it cut out from the place! And I noticed the brakes didn't work too good. I drove through the Projects. I had my arm resting on the window and the window went down. And I felt it pull a little bit. It jumped forward. I said, "Oh, man, what is this?" My cousin was there laughing at me. So I went on back to the car lot.

It made me mad, so I said, "I got to go get some money out of the bank." But I wasn't going back to that car lot. I checked in the book for the book value of the car. It was $600. They were asking $1300. So I said to myself, "Ain't no way they're going to get me like that. They're trying to make a killing."

I had my heart set on that Mustang. And I felt bad. So don't go buying a car from a car lot. Don't get into buying a car until you look it over. Don't be a sucker. That Mustang was a real lemon.

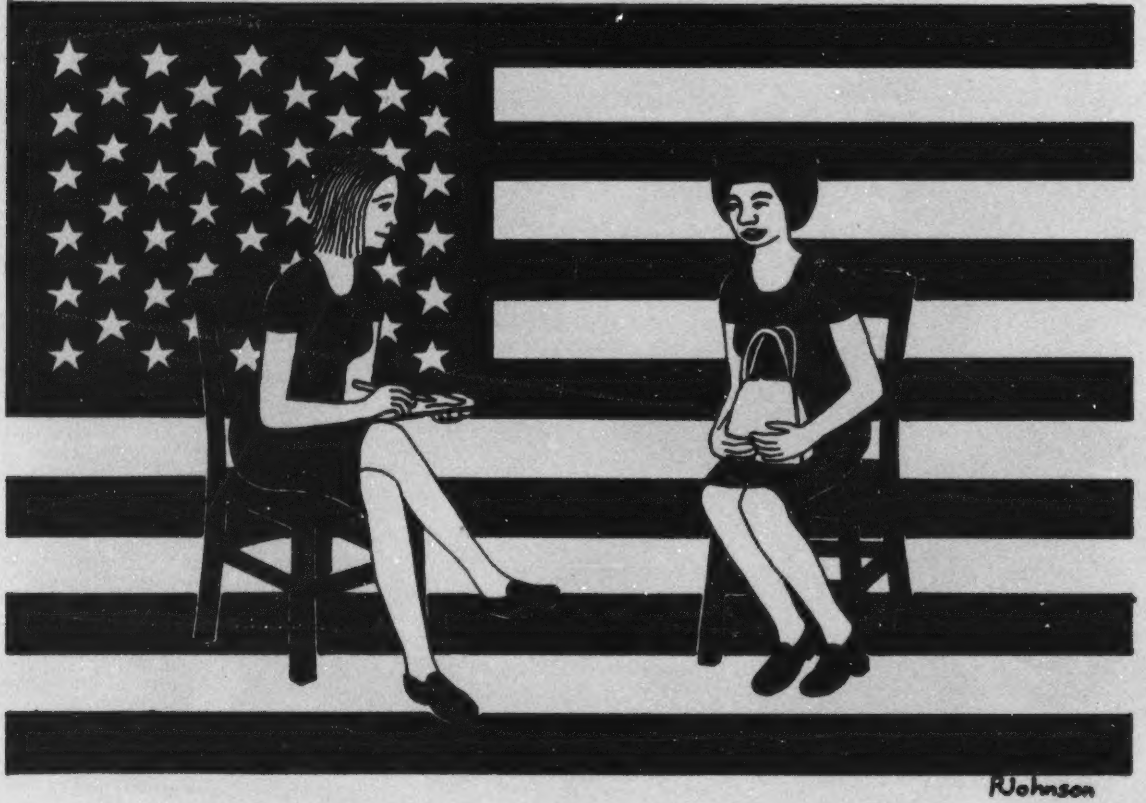
THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: TEST DRIVING A LEMON

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  1. So I got a job at the Boar's Head Inn making $70.00 a week.
  2. I was going to save up for this Mustang.
  3. William test drove it for me through the Projects.
  4. I noticed the brakes worked real good.
  5. That car was a real lemon.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  6. A real lemon is a car that cuts out real fast.
  7. The brakes don't have to work too good every time.
  8. The book tells you what a car is really worth.
  9. Buying a car from a car lot is a safe bet that the car is good.
  10. A quick decision can result in buying a real bad car.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  11. When you go to buy a car, you should look for the bad things about it.
  12. Buying a car takes a lot of thought.
  13. Car dealers are all honest people.
  14. Paying a lot of money for a car means it must be in good shape.
  15. Looking over a car is a waste of time.



REGISTERING TO VOTE

by Mary Reaves

When we first went down to City Hall to register to vote, they ask you questions, like your name. I told them Mary Reaves. They ask you what street you live on. I told them Hardy Drive. And I told them my address. And they ask you how long you have lived in the state. They ask how long I have lived in Hardy Drive and I said, "Two years." They asked me when my birthday was. I told them February 15th. They asked what year was it. I told them. They asked me my Social Security number. I didn't have to read anything, but I had to sign my name. The lady who took us down was named Mrs. Turner. She called me and asked me if I was ready to go this morning. She works with senior citizens. She was nice.

It was raining, and I wasn't planning on coming to school. I was going back to bed. But she said she'd pick me up at nine-thirty and bring me to school.

A lot of people that can't read or write need someone to carry them places and tell them about registering to vote. She told me that they need everyone to register to vote to get a good president to really help you out. They need everyone to vote. Things are so high now. They had two crooks for President. They got rid of one, and now they got another one. We need someone in there who would help people out.

THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: REGISTERING TO VOTE

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number corresponding to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

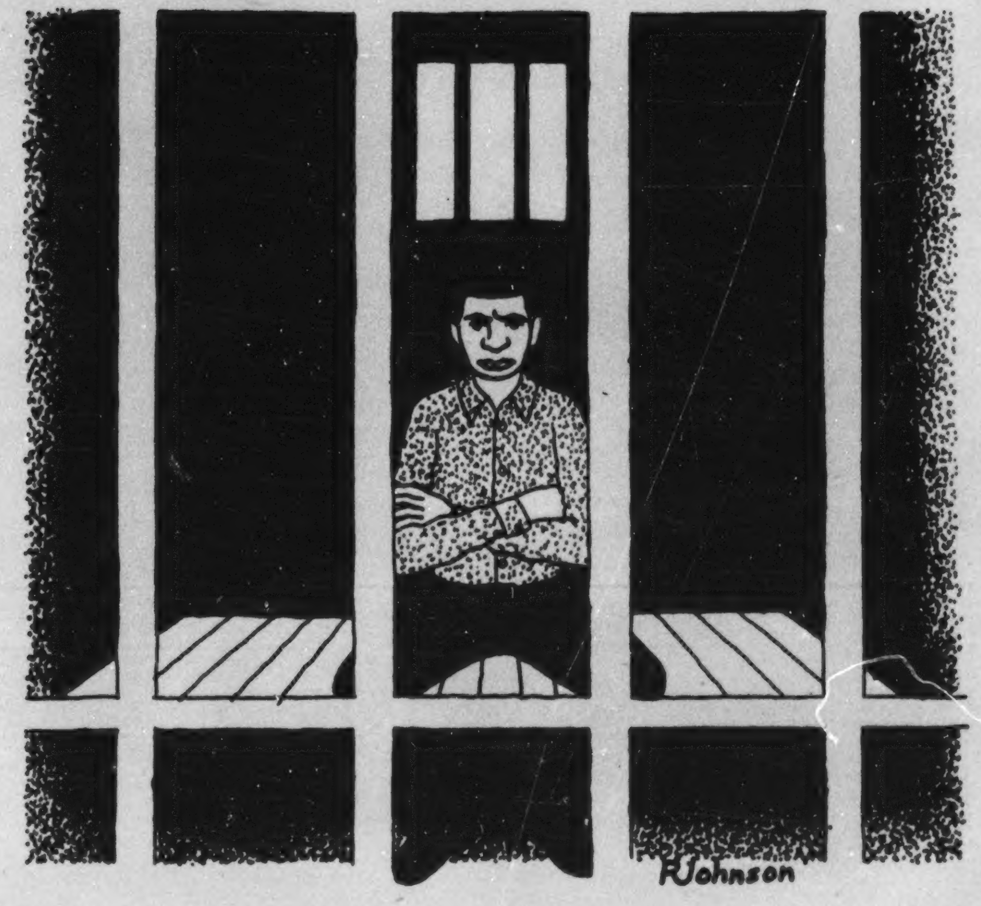
1. **They ask you what street you live on.**
2. **I had to catch the bus downtown to City Hall.**
3. **I was going back to bed.**
4. **They need everyone to vote.**
5. **They had two crooks for President.**

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

6. **If it weren't for Mrs. Turner, the author probably would not have registered to vote on that day.**
7. **The author wasn't going to register because she knew that she would be asked questions that she couldn't answer.**
8. **When you register, that is the time you actually vote for the person you want.**
9. **The author feels that things cost too much now but a good president might be able to do something about it.**
10. **The author thinks that all of our presidents have been good.**

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

11. **You register to vote at the City Hall.**
12. **All you have to do is sign your name when you register to vote.**
13. **It takes a lot of time to register.**
14. **If you want to get the person in office who you think will make a good president, then you have to vote.**
15. **You have to know how to read when you register to vote.**



IT FEELS TERRIBLE HAVING A BIRTHDAY IN JAIL

By Eddie Smith

I look so darn mad because I don't like to be in jail on my birthday. On my birthday I like to be at home celebrating a party for myself. What makes me so mad is my girlfriend knows what day my birthday is on. I like to be at home with her on my birthday.

In school I feel there are four nice teachers. They are teaching me new things to do. I say to myself when I get out I will still go to school to learn how to read more better. But in jail the teachers are nice to me, like a son to them. The teacher gave me a party in class for my birthday. She brought a chocolate cake in for the class. It made me feel good to know she is helping me out.

My sister came to see me on my birthday. She brought me something good for my birthday. She brought me a couple of packs of cigarettes. And she brought her little baby up to see me in jail. Then she told me she had to go because she got to go to work.

The guys in the cell gave me something for my birthday. They said I was too nice a guy to have a birthday in jail.

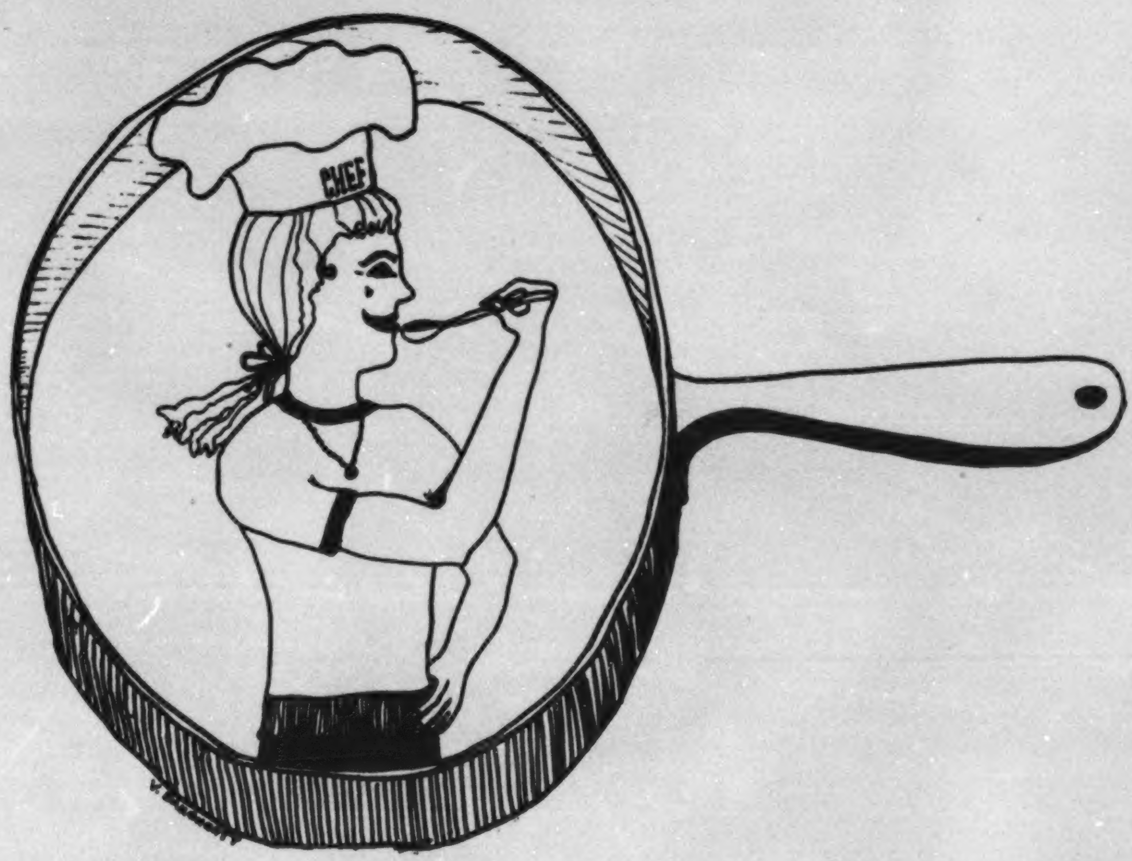
THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: IT FEELS TERRIBLE HAVING A BIRTHDAY IN JAIL

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number corresponding to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
1. I look so darn mad because I don't like to be in jail on my birthday.
2. My girlfriend doesn't know what day my birthday is on.
3. I would like to be at home on my birthday.
4. My sister brought me a cake for my birthday.
5. The guys in the cell gave me something for my birthday.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
6. The author felt mad about spending his birthday in jail.
7. Celebrating means mourning over a loss.
8. The author feels that the teachers care about him.
9. It didn't bother the author at all to have a birthday in jail.
10. If he was on the street, the author would have been celebrating his birthday with his girlfriend.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
11. Birthdays in jail are sad because you think of all the fun you could be having.
12. Teachers are very strict; they don't allow parties in their classes.
13. In jail, your cell mates usually feel for you.
14. Sometimes you don't know how good you had it until you're locked up.
15. If you want to have a really nice birthday, get yourself put in jail.



BAKING BROWNIES FOR SCHOOL

By Freeda Evans

Tammy got a letter from school. They wanted the mother's help for baking goods. They are working on getting money for sewing class. They're going to make skirts.

They want each parent to bake something. So I thought I would spend the evening after school making brownies. I think I should give Tammy some of my time to help in her school. I bought the two boxes of brownie mix and she made two batches; one for school and one for us. I thought Tammy did a really good job, because they were really good. Brownies and a glass of milk are really good for a snack for school kids when they come in.

I think it's really good to let girls go on and do things on their own. Then they don't have to depend on their mother. And they really can do more than you think they can do. Sometimes a mother will say. "Don't start that mess." But in order to make things. you have to make a mess. You can always clean it up. If girls want to start something, let them go ahead. When I get sick, my daughter waits on me. When she gets sick, I wait on her. We can do that because I let her go ahead and do things. If you don't let them do things while they want to, they never will learn.

We were also invited to a Christmas concert. They want each child to bring others with them. It is $.50 a person. That is helping for the sewing, too. Tammy is doing real well in school I think. She hasn't missed very many days this year. I sure hope she keeps on doing good. Tammy is a good girl. She babysits and makes her own money. And she uses her money very wisely. She buys her clothes, and I think she does a good job on buying them.

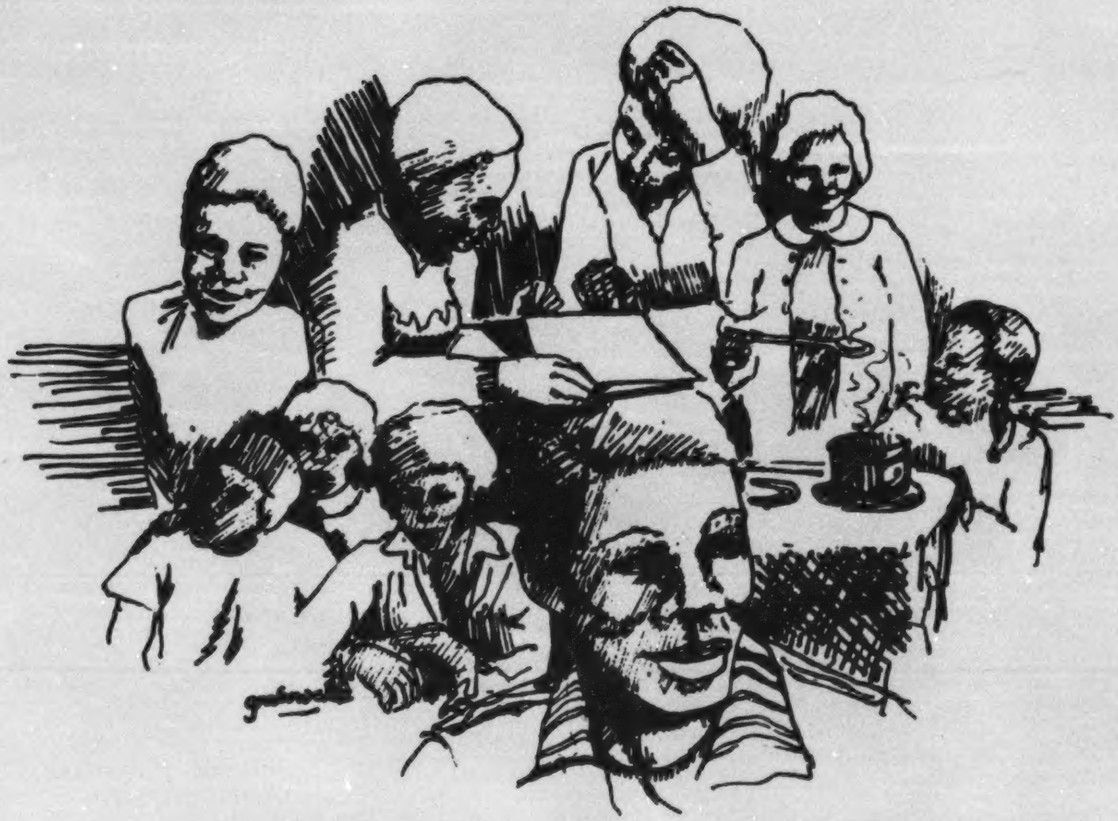
THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: BAKING BROWNIES FOR SCHOOL

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number corresponding to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
1. The school wanted the mother's help baking something.
2. I made brownies for her.
3. Brownies and milk is a real good snack for school kids when they come in.
4. Girls shouldn't be allowed to make messes.
5. Tammy is doing real well in school.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
6. The author was angry at the school for making her daughter bring brownies.
7. The money from the bake sale was going for sewing class.
8. The author is training her daughter to be independent.
9. The author is proud of her daughter.
10. To "depend on" means to do your own thing.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
11. It's good for school girls to make money for their own sewing projects.
12. If you're a parent your only job is to send your child to school.
13. It's good for girls to learn to be self-reliant.
14. It isn't worth all the money it takes to keep a child in school.
15. Parents should do everything for their children.



LIFE IN A BIG FAMILY

by Jesse Bradford

Life is good in a big family. You have lots of fun. In my family there are Jane, Mary, Sandra, Thomasina, Bev, Ricky, Richard and me. Sandra is the youngest. She is twelve years old. Also, there is my mother and father. There are ten in the family altogether.

We play ball together. We go to church together. You're never lonely in a big family. My sisters and I, we do all the washing. One of my sisters, she does all the cooking. My mother, she does all the sewing and some of the cooking. My father, he took us to the game and things like that.

When we went to Charlotte, we had lots of fun. Like one time we went, it was a long ride. We were all crammed in one car. When we got there, we went shopping. I was about seventeen. Me and my cousin went to the movies together. We went to visit some of her friends and we went out to dinner. We all packed back in the car and went back home.

We had fun going to school and coming home and playing ball. We picked cotton and blackberries together. And sometimes we would go to apple trees together. Sometimes we would go and pick strawberries. When we would get out of school, we would play dodge ball together with lots of friends. We divided up and almost had two teams.

People in small families miss a whole lot of fun. They never get to play ball together and be a one family team.

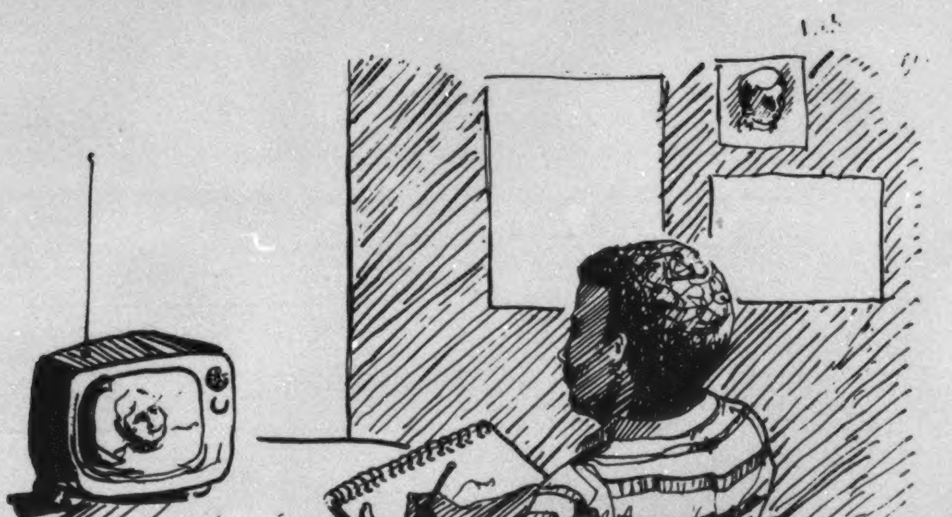
THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: LIFE IN A BIG FAMILY

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number corresponding to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  1. **Life is good in a big family.**
  2. **In our family one person did all of the washing.**
  3. **When we went to Charlotte, we had lots of fun.**
  4. **The one thing I didn't do with my brothers and sisters was to pick cotton.**
  5. **They never get to play ball together and be a one family team.**

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  6. **There aren't but a few things that a big family can do together.**
  7. **Loneliness isn't a problem in a big family.**
  8. **One advantage of a big family is that your own family can be a team in sport activities.**
  9. **When the author stated that they were all crammed in one car, she meant that they had had an accident.**
  10. **The author feels that a small family is better because a person can get more attention.**

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  11. **When you are a member of a big family, you can't plan to do things together.**
  12. **Sharing the household chores makes having a large family more fun.**
  13. **Because there is little chance that a person could get lonely in a big family, there are times when family members would probably like to be alone.**
  14. **When a big family makes a long trip in one car, they probably wish they had two cars.**
  15. **Doing things together as a family is fun no matter what the size of the family is.**



HOW I STARTED MY ART DRAWING

by Jerry Miller

I started my drawing when I went to school. I took my drawing at Burley. I took art class at Burley School. We had girls and boys in the art class. I started to draw pictures of the girls in my art class. My art teacher thought they were really good. Then I did a little more drawing at home. I drew during the daytime and a little bit at night. When I started drawing, I had to draw nice and easy so I didn't mess up.

I draw pictures of cartoons, like Bugs Bunny and Tweety Bird. I draw pictures of people, too. I look at the person. Then after I look at the person, my mind tells my brain what to draw. I draw a lot of movie stars. I look at them on T.V. I get them to look just like the person on television. Isaac Hayes is my favorite actor. Pam Rhodes is my favorite actress. The picture here is an actor.

When I draw a person, I start from the top down. First I draw the head. Then I draw the eyebrows, the eyes, the nose and the mouth. Then I make the chin and then the shoulders.

It makes me feel good when I can draw pictures that look like the people.

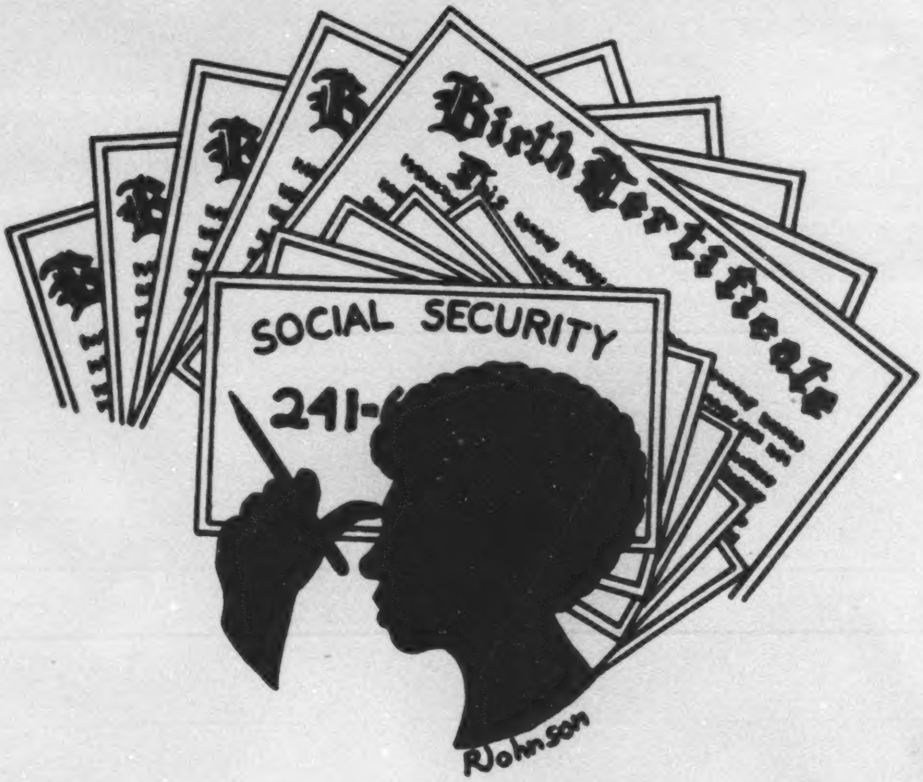
THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: HOW I STARTED MY ART DRAWING

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number corresponding to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  1. I started my art drawing before I went to school.
  2. I started to draw pictures of the girls in my art class.
  3. I drew a lot at night.
  4. My mind tells me what to draw after I look at a person.
  5. When I draw a person, I start from one side to the other.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  6. Drawing pictures makes me feel good.
  7. I can draw a person I've seen on T. V.
  8. Drawing nice and easy at first helped keep my work good.
  9. My teacher thought my pictures were good.
  10. I hate to draw cartoons, like Bugs Bunny and Tweety Bird.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  11. Art class is a good place to learn to draw.
  12. Art teachers don't tell you what they think of your pictures.
  13. Looking at a person first is important when you draw their picture.
  14. There are some things an artist likes to draw more than others.
  15. Artists use a certain method when they draw pictures.



THE RUN AROUND

by Mary Belle Johnson

My teacher and I went to the Division of Motor Vehicles. After we entered, I had to go to the desk. We got a form to be filled out. After that I took it to the desk, I had to show my Social Security card. Also, I was supposed to have my birth certificate, but I didn't, so I showed them a blue medical card. We had to go get a birth certificate.

We had to go to the City Welfare Department to verify my age. The lady there said she couldn't give me a copy. She told me to write to Richmond to get a copy of my birth certificate.

The next day we went back to the Welfare Department. My teacher went in and talked to the lady. She still said we couldn't have a birth certificate. Then we talked to Mr. Cox. Then he said if Mrs. Johnson said you can have her birth certificate, you can have it. He gave it to me and told me to sign a paper saying that they had given it to me.

Then I went over to the DMV. They gave me a form to fill out. I had given the man my birth certificate and my Social Security card. Then they gave me the learner's permit test. It was multiple choice. You choose A, B, or C. I remember one question that said, "What is this sign?" It was a stop sign. After I finished, the man called me in his office and checked the test. He told me I passed. Then he gave me an eye test. It was strictly for driving in the daytime. I passed the eye test for day driving. I had to pay three dollars, and I got my learner's!

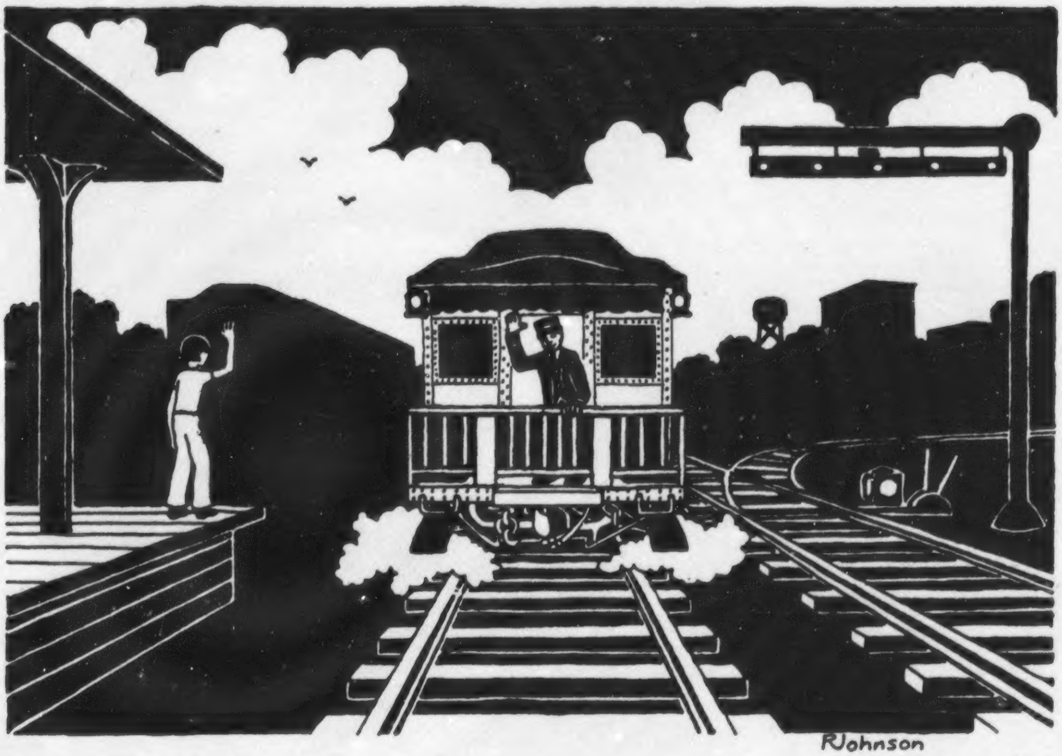
THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: THE RUN AROUND

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number corresponding to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  1. I went to the DMV by myself.
  2. I had to show my Social Security Card.
  3. They asked for my birth certificate.
  4. I got my birth certificate the same day.
  5. I had to pay three dollars.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  6. A birth certificate is a piece of paper from the state proving when you were born.
  7. Verify means to falsify.
  8. The author feels that the Welfare Department gave her "The Run Around."
  9. DMV stands for Division of Motor Vehicles.
  10. A blue medical card is the same as a birth certificate.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  11. If you go to the DMV to get a learner's, take your birth certificate with you.
  12. The City Welfare will be glad to verify your age.
  13. Sometimes people who are supposed to help you can give you the run around.
  14. If you go to the manager you might get what you need.
  15. Sometimes you have to be assertive.



TRAIN LIFE

by G.D. Brown

I have always loved to travel. My father used to work on the railroad. Now he is retired. He used to take me with him. I remember a trip from Miami to Baltimore. I was 8 years old.

I grew up in Fort Myers, Florida. When I was in school, I came up to Charlottesville to visit. I ended up getting married. So I stayed. There wasn't much work in Charlottesville, so I applied to Amtrak. You have to have at least an 8th grade education. The pay is good and you get good benefits.

I report to work for two hours before the departure of the train. In the diner, you work from 6 to 11 pm and then you get to sleep for four hours. That is, if they have space for you. Then you report to work at 4:30 am.

I usually go to Montreal; at first it was fun. You have five hours layover there. Coming back you serve people till 10, and you do the same the next day. But it gets old after a while. You work three days, and you're off two. That's if you're regular. "Spare boards" are people that don't have regular runs. They work odd hours. You have to put in a bid for a job. The person with the most seniority gets the job.

I enjoyed working on the train. You get to meet people from all walks of life. If you can cope with being away for six or seven days at a time, it's ok. My family doesn't mind. They have grown up with it. But they're glad to see me when I come home. When I pass through Charlottesville and can't stop, my 8 year old son waves to me from the platform. Sometimes I take him with me on the train.

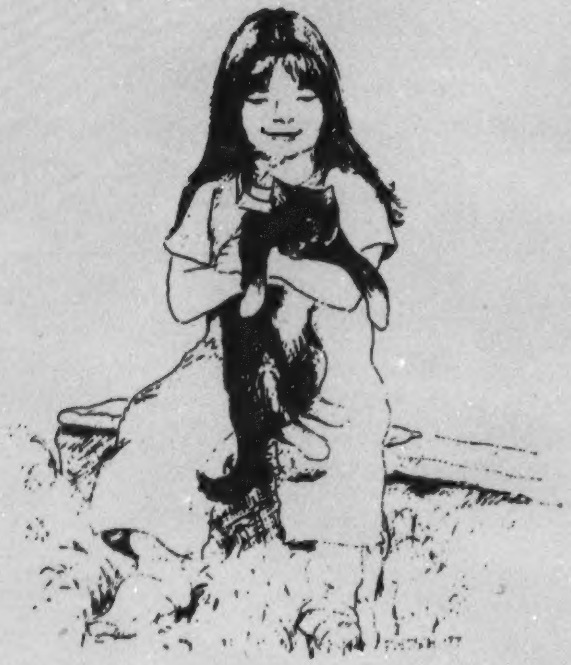
THREE LEVEL GUIDE: TRAIN LIFE

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number corresponding to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check by the number of the true statements.
1. I never did like to travel.
2. My father used to take me with him.
3. I grew up in Charlottesville.
4. You have to have at least an 8th grade education to work for Amtrak.
5. I enjoy working on the train.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check by the number of the true statements.
6. The author got a good night's sleep on the train.
7. The author likes working on the train.
8. Seniority is a special status you get when you work for a company for a long time.
9. "Spare boards" are extra pieces of board they use on the train.
10. The author is following a family tradition in working on the train.

III. How can we use the meanings? Put a check by the number of the true statements.
11. When you work on the train, you have to put up with being away from home.
12. You need a high school diploma to get a railroad job.
13. If you have been with the railroads for the longest time, you get first pick of the jobs.
14. You meet lots of interesting people on the train.
15. Workers on the train don't get much sleep.



LOVING A STRAY CAT

by Freeda Evans

Tammy had been wanting a cat for herself. When she wants anything, she usually gets it. She was at school one day, and a teacher was telling her about having two cats. She wanted to find a good home for one of them. He was a stray cat coming to her home. He was full of lice, in his ears. The lady took him in took him to the SPCA and de-loused him and gave him medicine for his ears.

When Tammy got back from school, she was telling me about him. She was asking me to get him. So the next evening, she came in from school and said, "Mother, do you have your hair combed?"

And I said, "Why? Does it look so bad?"

"No!" she said. "This lady is bringing the cat over for us to see."

It was raining that day. We looked out and she had this great big cage. Tammy said, "Gee, Mother, she must be rich. She has that big cage with the cat in it!"

He was black with a white stomach and white feet. He's right pretty. He had a white collar on him. The teacher wanted to make really sure that he had a good home.

And then the next morning about ten o'clock, I looked out the window, and there was the lady back. I said, "Gee, Tammy, pick up these things fast." I think I scared Tammy because she didn't know what the woman came back for. Tammy let her in, and she reached out and got Tammy by the hand and said, "Gee, Tammy, I miss my cat. I didn't think I would miss him that bad." She told Tammy that she wanted the cat back.

And there they were hugging and crying. There I was sitting on the couch. I didn't know what to do. I felt sorry for both of them.

I went to visit my neighbor late one evening, and Tammy was feeling really bad with a cold. When I came back, I asked her where the cat was. She said that she let him out. He meowed like a baby. She said, "You didn't want to listen to him meow, anyway."

He meows sad. I was worried about him. She said, "Don't worry, Mother, He'll come back home. He knows where he lives, and he is a tomcat. And you know how tomcats are. When I got ready to go to bed, I was feeling bad about the cat. After I got in bed, I was lying there, and I heard him go, "Meow." I knew it was him! He was up and under the house. It was below zero.

The next morning I went to look for him. I didn't see him at the door. I looked across the street, and he was lying on the lady's porch. I called him, and he didn't even look at me. He didn't want to come in. He had gotten the houses mixed up; So I went over and got him. He is doing fine.

He comes to us and meows, and we let him out. Then he comes back an hour or two later. He is a clean cat. This is a true story about Tammy's big black cat.

THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: LOVING A STRAY CAT

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number corresponding to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

1. She was at school one day, and a teacher was telling her about having two cats.
2. The cat was grey with white ears.
3. And there they were hugging and crying.
4. I looked across the street, and he was lying on a lady's porch.
5. Then he came back about four weeks later.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

6. The teacher wanted to give the cat to someone who would take it to the SPCA to be de-loused.
7. A stray cat is a black cat with a white stomach and white feet.
8. It was a long time before the teacher realized that she missed the cat.
9. The cat found his way back home the first time Tammy let him out.
10. Tammy ended up giving the cat back to the teacher because she found out that it took too much time to take care of the cat.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

11. Not all people provide a good home for animals.
12. The SPCA offers special services to animals.
13. A cat is taken outside only with its owner.
14. Animals take medicine.
15. A cat lets you know when he wants to go outside.

A NEW LIFE FOR THE LITTLE FISH

by Eddie Smith

Monday evening my little sister and I went downtown. I bought us some gold fish. I also bought an aquarium. I carried them home and put the aquarium together. After I put it together, I poured some water in it. I put some type of liquid in it. I did that to make the city water safe for the fish. When I finished all that, I carried it upstairs and put it in my room. I didn't want anyone to bother my fish.

My brother and sister came by the living room and asked, "Where are the fish?"

I told them, " I took the aquarium and the fish upstairs because too many people were bothering it."

All together I've got five fish in the aquarium. I bought three gold fish, a short gray fish, and a fish with a spot on it. If they get too big for the aquarium, I'm going to turn them loose and let them be free. I like to sit on the end of the bed and watch them swim.

I went outside for awhile later that evening. When I came in, I looked at them swimming around in the aquarium. I was afraid my little brother would decide to fool around with them. So I told him, "If my fish die, you will have to buy me some more."

This morning when I got up and looked at the fish, they seemed as if they were looking for food. So I put some food in there before I left home. Right away they started to eat the food.

Some members of my family called me a fool because they think I wasted my money buying fish and the aquarium. But I told them I like to have something to show for my money. And next week, I'm going to buy four more fish.

THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: A NEW LIFE FOR THE LITTLE FISH

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number corresponding to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

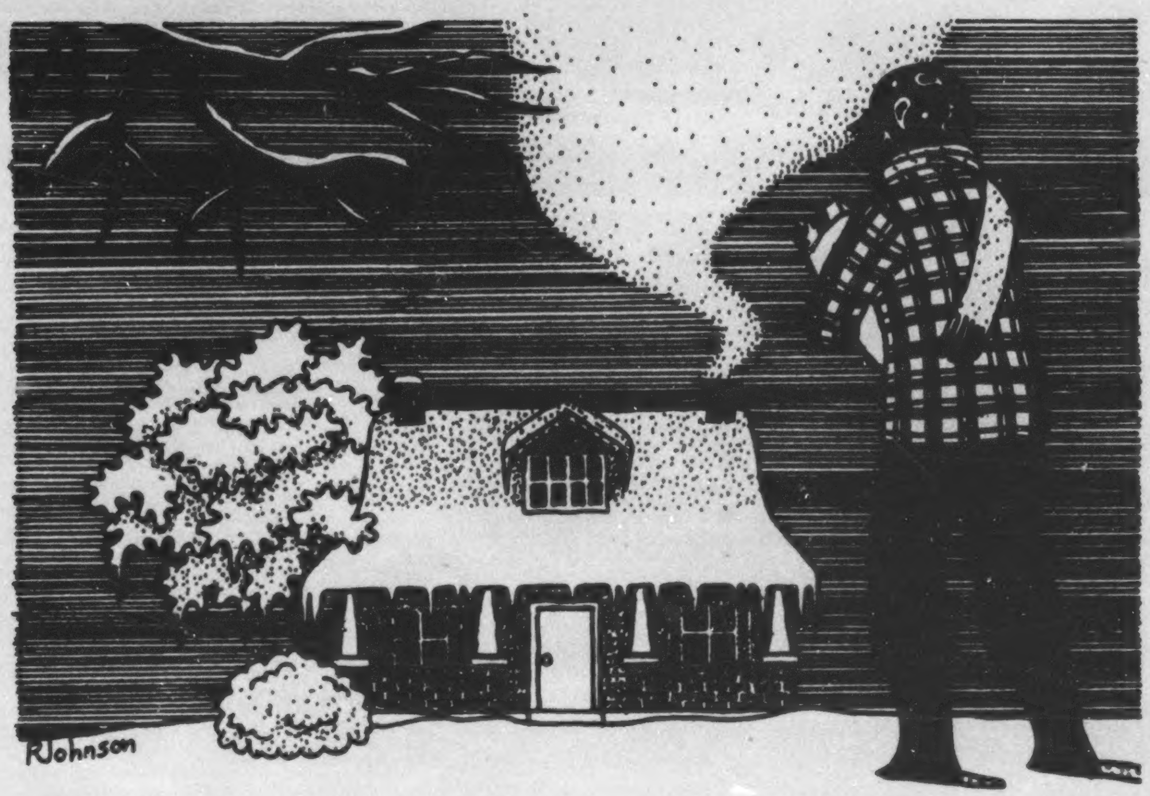
1. I bought a fish pond from a neighbor of mine.
2. I didn't want anyone to bother my fish.
3. I've got twenty fish in the aquarium.
4. I like to sit on the end of the bed and watch them swim.
5. My sister said that she wanted the fish in her room.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

6. An aquarium is a tank of water in which animals or plants that live in water are kept.
7. The author put the aquarium in his room because he thought that was the only place aquariums are supposed to be kept.
8. The author likes to see large fish trapped in a small tank.
9. The author's brother will have to replace the fish if he causes them to die.
10. The author can look at the fish and decide if they want food to eat.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

11. All aquariums are already put together in the store.
12. Any type of water is safe for gold fish.
13. When you have something that you don't want anyone to bother, it is sometimes best to just move it out of everyone's way.
14. Only gold fish can be put in an aquarium.
15. In most instances, it is for the individual to decide if he spends his money foolishly.



THE ROUGH WINTER OF '77

by Freeda Evans

I'm sure glad this is a nice day. Last April I moved in a different house which I was uneasy about. People began to say that we were going to have a rough winter. That really made me worry more about the unfinished house.

My landlord was supposed to fix my washer and drier so they would work. He messed up my washer. I had to get somebody else to fix the cord on it so I could use it. I didn't get to dry my clothes in the drier but twice the whole winter long. And man, did I ever need my drier this rough winter!

Tammy and I were sick on and off the whole winter. Everytime I talked to a different person they would say, "This is going to be a rough winter!" And that would make me feel worse. Everyone is talking about their oil and light bills being so high.

Sometimes I get afraid because I am not working. And if I were working, I don't know how in the world I would make ends meet. If we hadn't had our electric blankets, we probably would have frozen. I was really glad that I only had but one daughter at home with me. I really felt sorry for the people that had more children. Then I told my

daughter the house wasn't so bad after all. We didn't freeze to death! Meantime we were thinking about summer coming and about lying out in the sun. You can pull through a lot when you think of that!

Last summer when it was hot, it was really hot. And this winter it was really cold, and man, it was cold!

Now we are having several pretty days, and man, everybody is happy. People won't be worrying about their gas bills any more. You see more people out walking and getting exercise after they had been in all winter long. I think it makes everybody feel a lot different since the rough winter is behind us. If you were feeling bad, it makes you feel much better by the weather being so nice. Everybody is raking their yard and getting planted for the summer. It makes you think of the Lord. To think that after such a terrible winter, there could be a spring! But be careful, there could be some more bad weather. One year I cleaned my yard for spring and the next morning I looked out and there was an inch of snow on my lilies. I hope everybody that reads this would kind of look out for the next winter and plan ahead.

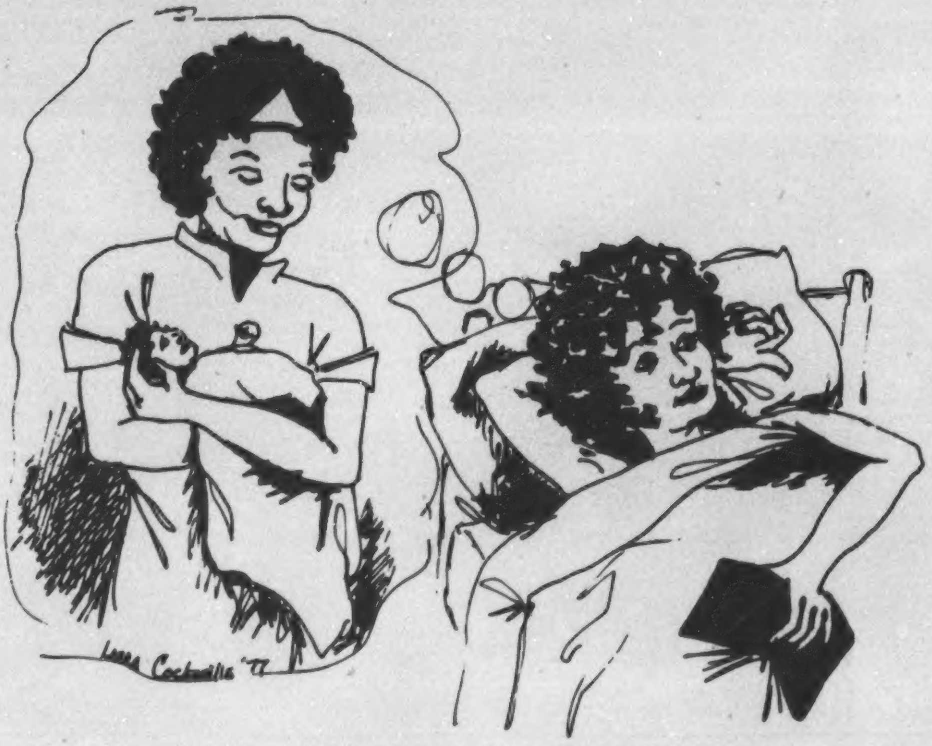
THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: THE ROUGH WINTER OF '77

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number corresponding to the true statement.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
1. Last April I moved to a different house.
2. My landlord fixed my washer and drier.
3. People kept saying, "This is going to be a rough winter."
4. Last summer it was really cool and this winter it was warm.
5. If you were feeling bad, the nice weather makes you feel better.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
6. The landlord was good at fixing washers and driers.
7. The author likes to lay out in the sun.
8. The author envied people with more children at home.
9. The nice spring weather made the author think of the Lord.
10. The author thought the winter of '77 was rough.

III. How can we use the meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
11. Electric blankets can help you through a rough winter.
12. People's feelings don't have a thing to do with the weather.
13. It's always easier to make ends meet if you're working.
14. Never count your chickens before they're hatched.
15. It can be scary to be out of work.



ME AS A NURSE

by Rosanna Smith

When I was young I never thought I would ever be a nurse. I was always afraid of blood. Blood was what made you live, and if you started bleeding, you would die. I thought that for the longest time.

I was sixteen years when I stopped being afraid. That's when I first wanted to be a nurse.

I was going to have a baby. I lost my baby, but one of the nurses was very understanding. She was teaching child care, and she asked me to go to one of the classes. I told her no because I lost my baby. She took the time to sit and talk with me. I thought it was nice of her to try to help me forget about losing the baby. That's why I decided to become a nurse.

I am a nurse's aide now. When I work with patients, I like to talk to them. Old patients like to talk about their families. Sometimes it's good and sometimes not. There are patients in hospitals that are put there because they just happened to get dizzy once too often. Perhaps they fell and broke their leg and the family can't take time to stay with them until they get well. That's why I want to be a nurse, so I can help people get back on their feet.

I like people, and I want to help underprivileged people and children. I want them to know that there are people that care and want to help. I want to share some of my love with them. To me, this is what nursing means: helping, sharing, and loving.

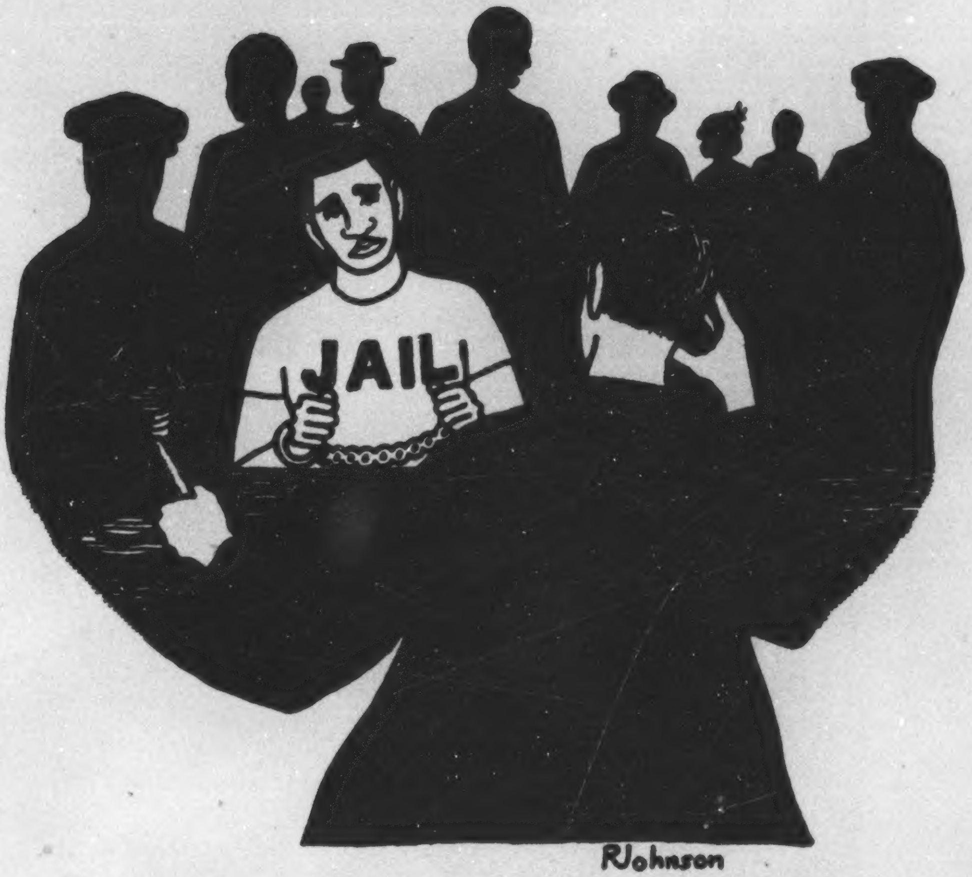
THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: ME AS A NURSE

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  1. I was five years old when I decided that I wanted to be a nurse.
  2. One of the nurses at the hospital made my visit very unpleasant.
  3. She took time to sit and talk with me.
  4. Old patients like to talk about their families.
  5. I want to share some of my love with them.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  6. The author thinks that a nurse should be very understanding.
  7. The author intends to help only those people who can afford for her to come to their homes and care for them privately.
  8. The reason the author decided to become a nurse was that she thought that there were too many uncaring people in the profession.
  9. "Underprivileged" means that you have to have special care from the doctor.
  10. Helping, sharing, and loving are equally important aspects of nursing.

III. How can we use the meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  11. A lack of understanding can keep you from doing things just as much as having all the facts.
  12. Some unhappy event in a person's life can sometimes lead to happier and more gratifying things in the future.
  13. Having someone to listen to you can be an essential part of getting well.
  14. Sometimes a nurse has to be a substitute for the patient's family.
  15. People sometimes choose a profession because they were impressed by someone in that profession.



LOST IN THE WORLD

by Harry Darras

When an adult wants to read, there is never anything that he can read. For instance, take an adult who is in jail. Everybody is sitting around reading. He just sits there, going crazy. Then if he does something stupid, everybody wonders why.

Someone should pay attention to the guys who can't read. Then they should help the guys out as best they can. Because if a person can not read, he is lost. He is lost about reading and writing letters. He is lost when he wants to write to the judge or to his lawyer. There are times when it seems that he gets sentenced before he knows what is happening if he can't read. This can be really true of people who are shy and afraid to tell someone that they can't read.

When a person goes looking for a job, he is really not looking as hard as he wants to. He is afraid to fill out that application form. The worst part occurs when he gets married. That is when all the hard problems start happening. Then he starts putting it all off on his wife.

Before he knows it, he is separated over something that people could have helped him with earlier.

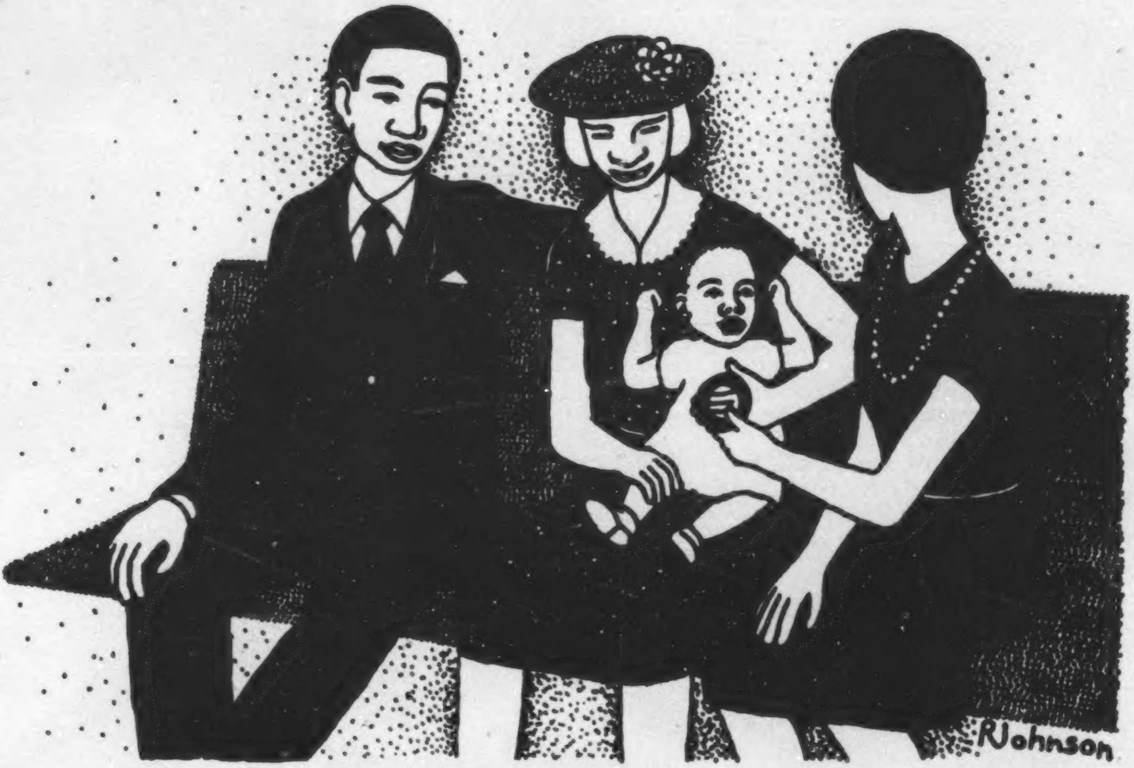
THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: LOST IN THE WORLD

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds with the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
 1. An adult in jail can not always find anything to read.
 2. Someone should pay attention to guys in jail who can not read.
 3. If a person can read, he is lost.
 4. A person in jail always gets sentenced before he knows what is happening.
 5. Shy people are not afraid to tell someone they can not read.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
 6. The author says that a guy in jail who can not read is at a loss.
 7. The author feels that someone should help guys in jail to read better.
 8. The author says that a guy who can not read is afraid to fill out an application for a job.
 9. Writing letters is not as important for the author as reading is.
 10. The author says that a guy in jail never wants to write to the judge or his lawyer.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
 11. People who can not read sometimes have problems after they get married.
 12. People who can read feel lost in jail.
 13. People who can read know how to fill out job applications.
 14. No one should help guys in jail to read better.
 15. Reading and writing are both very important.



JOURNAL OF MY GRANDBABY

by Sallie Barbour

Waiting for the Baby — **October 5, 1976**

Helen is looking to go in the hospital any time. I will be glad when she goes and comes back. I am hoping that it will be a little girl. She is quite excited herself. All her sisters are anxious for her to go and come back, too.

My Grandbaby — **November 3, 1976**

She was born on October 19. She weighed eight pounds and 11½ ounces. She was a big baby. And I was very excited about her. All her aunts were very excited, too. They stayed up at the hospital until she was born. The father was excited. He was so proud of his baby daughter.

We will be glad when she gets to be about a month and a half so we can take her out and show her off.

Nakisha **December 1, 1977**

Nakisha is a very pretty baby. She weighs 11½ pounds and the doctors say she is smart. She is doing push–ups. She just looks at you, and turns her head, and opens her mouth like a little bird. She has been to church about four times.

The Baby Cutting Teeth **February 1, 1977**

She came over to my house on Saturday night and I was feeding her. I discovered that she had teeth. I put my hands in her mouth and I felt teeth. You can see them through her gums. But they are not very far up, so you can't see them real good. She is very happy. When her mother gets to playing with her, she has a big laugh. The baby tries to have a big laugh, too.

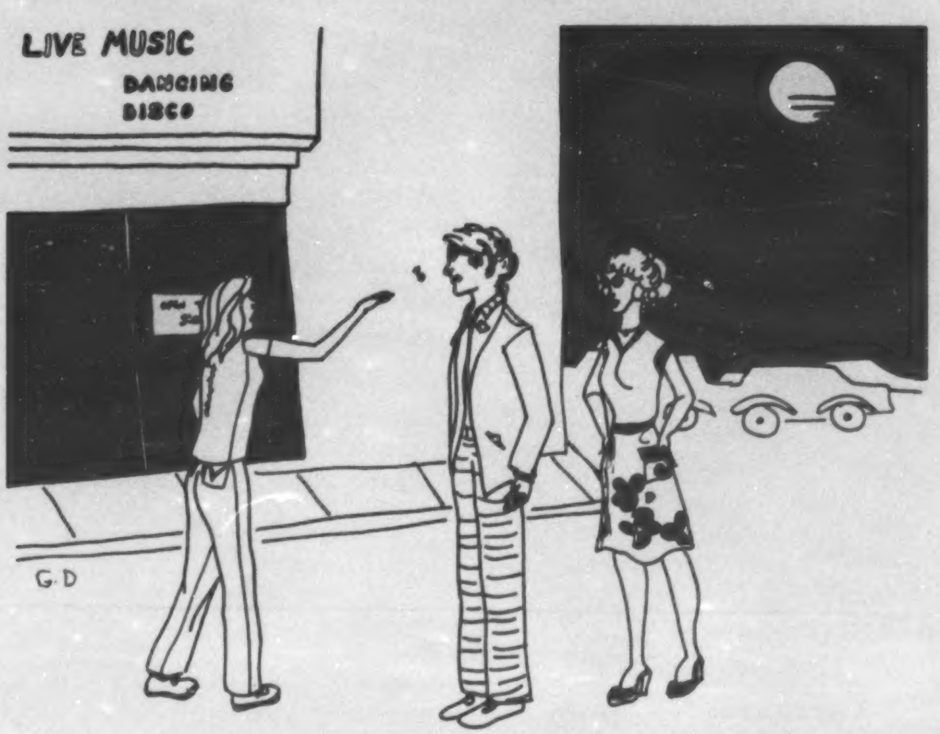
THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: JOURNAL OF MY GRANDBABY

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number corresponding to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
- **1. She was born on November 1, 1977.**
- **2. She was a big baby.**
- **3. The baby was named Nakisha.**
- **4. She looks at you, turns her head, and opens her mouth like a little bird.**
- **5. She is a fussy baby.**

II. What did the author mean? Put a check by the number of the true statements.
- **6. Her grandbaby means a lot to the author.**
- **7. The author thinks it's ok to take a baby out right after it is born.**
- **8. Anxious means to want very much.**
- **9. Helen had lots of support from her family when she had her baby.**
- **10. The father didn't much care about the new baby.**

III. How can we use the meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
- **11. Proud grandparents like to show off their grandchildren.**
- **12. Babies get teeth when they are about a month old.**
- **13. Babies are always born right when they are due.**
- **14. When you have raised your children, you have grandchildren to look forward to.**
- **15. Babies are worth waiting for.**



MY BROKEN ENGAGEMENT

I was engaged to a guy one time. I was young, but you know how your first love is. It's the greatest thing that ever happened to you. When I first met him, I said, "Boy, would I like to go with him."

He was a friend of my friend. They came down to my house to get my stereo, and I went with them. He had another girl friend with him. But he went down to his friend's house and got another guy to come up there and see her.

It was time for me to go home, so he offered me a ride home. So I said, "OK." He took me home and he asked me to go to a party on Christmas night. But I said, " What about your girlfriend?"

He said, "She isn't my girlfriend, but if she was I would get rid of her. She's getting on my nerves anyway."

So I said, "Ok, I'll meet you over at Sam's house."

So Christmas night I met him, and we had a real good time. We danced and had a beautiful time. I remember I got drunk as a dog. And high, boy, I mean I was messed up. All I remember is I had a beautiful time.

He took me home that morning and said we would see each other every night. And sure enough, we did! I really did care for him a lot.

It went on for a year, and he asked me to marry him. I said I would think it over.

Now the next night he brought me a diamond. I'll never forget it either. It was a small one with a silver band. But I had never given him an answer. So finally I said, "Yes."

So one night I was supposed to meet him over at Sam's house. I waited, and he never came. Some friends come by and told me they saw him up at the Spectrum East. So I went up there and sure enough, he was there...with a girl.

And I got hot. I threw the ring in his face. I told him to take that girl and the ring and get lost.

THREE LEVEL GUIDE: MY BROKEN ENGAGEMENT

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

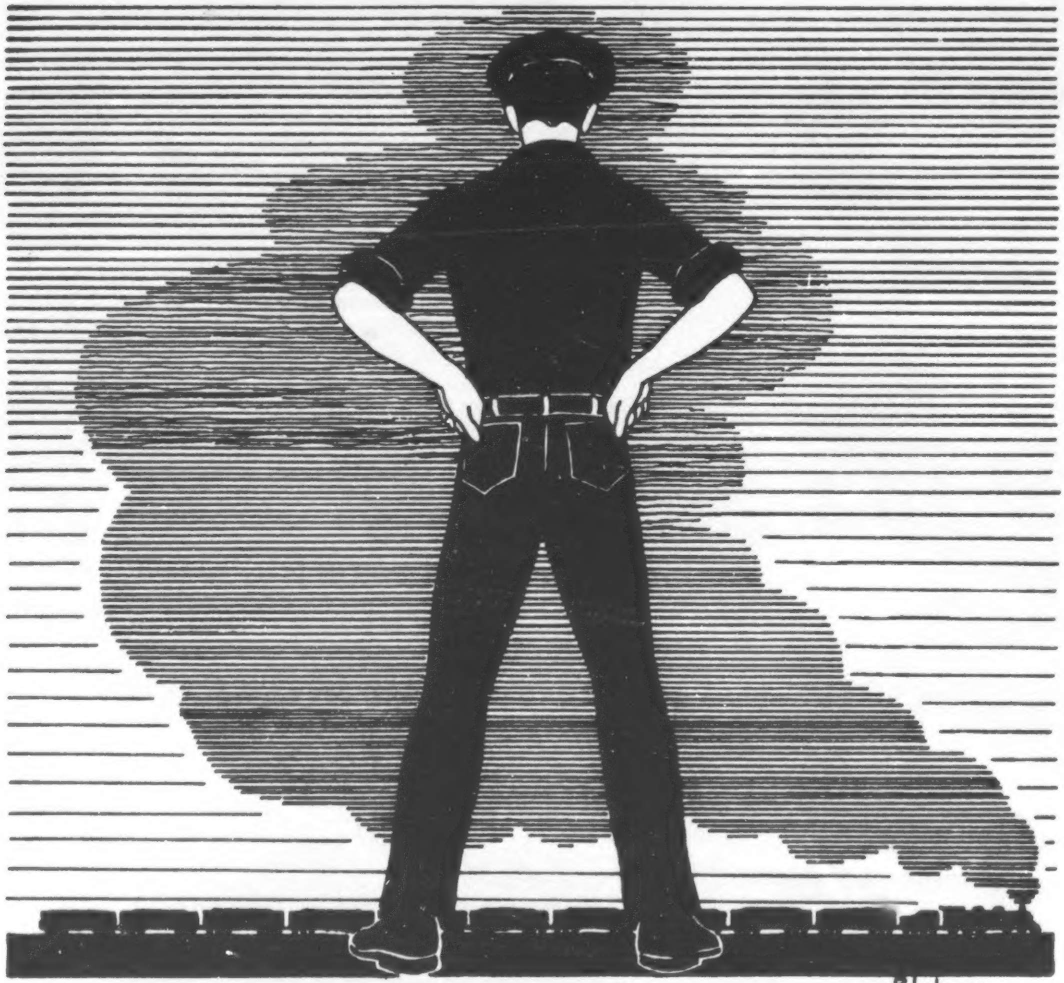
1. I was engaged to a guy one time.
2. He didn't have a girl friend when I met him.
3. We danced and had a beautiful time.
4. He asked me to marry him right away.
5. I'll never forget the ring.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

6. To be engaged means to plan to marry.
7. The author feels that first love is the greatest thing that ever happened to a person.
8. At first the other girlfriend was a problem.
9. The author didn't really care for him.
10. She might have said "yes" because he bought her a diamond.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.

11. A man that will run around on one woman may end up running around on another.
12. First loves always last forever.
13. Seeing your fiance with another girl can make you angry.
14. You always marry the first person that you become engaged to.
15. It's better to break an engagement than end up married and sorry.



LOOKING BACK

by Glen Graham

I started with the railroads in 1941. I started out working on steam engines. I was an apprentice machinist working on steam engines. We went to school one day a month.

In 1948, they started diesel engines. The last steam engines they used were in 1963. It was called the K-4, 2700 series. They almost had them perfect, and then they quit. They were out of date. So we learned to work on the diesels.

In those days there were a lot of stops to accomodate people. Now the train passes up so many stops. They hauled milk in the old days. People in little towns depended on the train. From Beckley, West Virginia people would go over the mountain to get on the train. It was the only way out.

Trains were segregated in those days. I was in the service in Texas. It was raining. There were four service men standing in the rain. Three were white, and one was black. The bus driver let the three white men on. Then he said, "Sorry, we're out of room," to the black. He was left there standing in the rain. I'll never forget seeing him standing there as the bus drove away.

There was a strike in 1942, a nationwide strike. The unions accepted blacks' dues and membership. But during the strike, blacks got in as machinists helpers instead of laborers. Some of them stayed.

During World War II, I rode the trains as a serviceman. I was in the army. The services relied heavily on trains. Trains were crowded. Stations were crowded. They were full of women saying goodbye. At the height of the manpower buildup during World War II, there were 12,000,000 men in uniform. Gas was rationed. So a lot of people rode the train.

THREE LEVEL STUDY GUIDE: LOOKING BACK

Directions: Number from 1-15 on your paper.
Put a check after the number that corresponds to the true statements.
Do not write on this card.

I. What did the author say? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  1. I started working with the railroads in 1950.
  2. Trains were segregated in those days.
  3. There are many ways out of West Virginia.
  4. During the war, hardly anyone rode the train.
  5. I'll never forget seeing him standing there as the bus drove away.

II. What did the author mean? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  6. "Accomodate" means to take care of.
  7. The author felt sorry for the black man who was left standing in the rain.
  8. Diesels are steam engines.
  9. Women were getting on trains saying goodbye to the men.
  10. Segregated means whites and blacks all sitting together.

III. How can we use these meanings? Put a check after the number of the true statements.
  11. Railroads never change their engines.
  12. Trains are important to people in little mountain towns.
  13. During wartime, trains are very important.
  14. In the 1940's, a black man could ride on any bus or train.
  15. If you were in the army during World War II, you probably rode the train.

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